

## Biometric Technologies and Security

1. Explain why biometrics is considered more secure than traditional passwords and give simple examples to support your explanation.

Biometrics is considered more secure than traditional passwords because they are based on who you are, not what you know.

Here's the simple breakdown for you

1) Hard to Guess or Steal.

Passwords can be guessed, stolen, leaked or shared. But Biometrics cannot be guessed so easily because they are unique to each person.

Example:

• Someone can guess your passwords like "Meghul3" or

Steal it from a note.

• But they cannot steal your fingerprint or exact fact structure easily.

1) Always with you  
you may forget a pass, but you can't forget  
your fingerPrint or face.

Example: If you forgot your Password, you get got  
locked out

2) Difficult to Be Duplicate

Creating fake password is easy creating a  
fake fingerPrint or iris is extremely  
difficult needs special tools

3) Differentiate between biometric verification and  
identification

Biometric Verification: The system checks if you  
are the right person. you say who you are →  
The system confirms it

Example: you unlock your Phone with finger  
Phone checks: "Is this my fingerPrint"

Biometric identification: The System tries to find  
out who you are. you don't say your  
name → The system searches the database  
to identify you

3) Explain why the False Non-match Rate (FNMR)  
is important in Evaluating the  
why FNMR is important in Bio-Metric System,  
FNMR tell how often the System fails to  
recognize the right person.  
why is this important?

Because a good biometric system should let  
real user in without trouble.

Simple Example:

4) Describe how a finger print image is acquired,  
Explaining each basic step involved

How a finger print image is captured:

1. Finger Placement - You place your finger on a scanner surface
2. Light or electrical signal - The device shines light or sends an electrical signal to read the ridges
3. Ridge detection:
  - \* Ridges reflect light or create strong signals.
  - \* Valleys absorb light or give weak signals.

- a. sensor converts it to digital - The scanner turns these signals into a digital image.
- b. Image cleaning - The system removes noise, enhances clarity, and sharpens the ridges.
- c. Final fingerprint image - A clear fingerprint pattern is produced and stored for use

Q) Explain one major weakness of fingerprint biometrics and describe how it affects user authentication.

One major weakness:

Fingerprint biometrics can be spoofed.

How it affects authentication:

If someone uses a fake fingerprint made from gel, silicone, or a copied print, they might unlock the device or gain access without permission, reducing security.

Q) Why do layered biometric systems improve security? Explain with a suitable example.

Layered biometric systems use more than one biometric. This makes security stronger.

because even if one biometric is fooled,  
the other one still protects the system.

Example:

You phone ask for Finger Print + face unlock.  
Even if someone copies your finger print, they  
still can't get in without your face - so the  
system becomes much harder to hack.

Q. Explain the role of minutiae points in finger print  
matching and describe how they help in  
identifying a person.

Role of minutiae points:

Minutiae points are the tiny special details  
in a fingerprint like where a ridge ends  
or splits. These points are unique for  
every person.

How they help identify a Person:

The system compares the location and pattern  
of these minutiae points in the scanned  
fingerprint with the stored fingerprint.

If enough points match, the system say it is  
the same person.

g. Explain how failure to Enroll affects the overall Performance of a biometric system and give possible reasons for this failure.

How FTE affects Performance:

Failure to Enroll (FTE) means, the algorithm cannot capture or register a user's template during enrollment. This reduces the system's overall performance because users cannot use biometric systems at all, making it less reliable and less convenient.

Reasons for FTE:

- Poor quality fingerprints
- Dry or wet fingers
- Sensor Problem or low-quality Sensors
- user not placing finger correctly
- Environmental issues

g) Compare any two fingerprint recognition algorithm and explain how they differ in their working.

i) Minutiae-based Algorithm

How it works:

- looks at small details
- compare the position and direction

## • Pattern-based Algorithm

- How it works:
  - Looks at the overall pattern of the fingerprint
  - Compares the global structure, not the details.

Key Ideas: matches fingerprint based on overall shape and flow

## 10. How Fingerprint features are extracted:

- Clean the image - The system removes noise and makes the ridges clearer.
- Find the ridges and valleys - it identifies the dark ridges and light spaces.
- Detect Minutiae Points - The system finds important feature like
  - ridge endings
  - bifurcations (splits)
- Convert them into data - Their positions and directions are turned into digital points

Evaluate the reliability of biometric systems using different accuracy metrics and Explain why they are needed.

Important accuracy metrics:

1. False Match Rate (FMR)

- How often the system accepts the wrong Person, Low FMR = more secure.

2. False non-Match Rate (FNMR)

- How often the system rejects the correct person.
- Low FNMR = more user friendly.

3. Failure to Enroll (FTE)

- How often the system cannot register a user's biometric.
- Low FTE = more reliable.

4. Equal Error rate (EER)

- Point where FMR and FNMR are equal
- Lower EER = better overall accuracy.

Q2. Analyze why fingerprint recognition system may fail in real world environments and provide suitable examples.

Reasons and examples:

1. Dirty, wet or oily fingers:

Example: After eating oily foods, the scanner can't read ridges properly.

2. Dry or cracked skin:

Example: In winter, dry fingers may not produce a clear print.

3. Damaged fingerprints:

Example: A worker with cuts or burns on fingers may fail to authenticate.

4. Dirty or Scratched Sensors:

Example: A phone fingerprint scanner with dust or scratches gives errors.

5. Environmental conditions:

Example: Humidity or rain can make the sensor misread the fingerprint.

Q. Justify the need for layered biometric solutions.

Layered biometric solutions are needed in high security areas because one biometric alone is not enough to stop advanced attacks.

Practical reasons:

1. Harder to spoof.

• even if someone fakes a fingerprint, they still need face or iris to get in.

2. Stronger identity Proof.

• Two or more biometrics confirms the person more accurately, reducing mistake

3. Protection against sensor failure.

• If the fingerprint scanner fails, the system can fall use face or iris

4. Stops inside attacks.

• Employees cannot simply share passwords, they must pass multiple biometric checks.

Q4. How the false Match rate (FMR) affects the security of a biometric system and explain its real-world impact.

∴ False Match Rate tells how often a biometric system accepts the wrong Person.

How FMR affects security

- \* A high FMR means the system can be fooled easily.

~~it would be possible~~ unauthorized people might get access because the system thinks they are real users.

Real-world impact -

- \* A stranger might unlock someone's phone if the fingerprint scanner wrongly matches.

In a high security lab, a high FMR could let an unauthorized Person enter a restricted area.

Prepare a simple improvement that can increase the accuracy of fingerprint.

Improvements:

use enhanced image Processing

How it helps:

- Remove noise, blur, and smudges.
- Makes ridges and valleys clearer.
- allows the system to extract minutiae points more accurately.
- Leads to better matching and fewer mistakes.

8  
27/11