

SECURE DATA AGGREGATION SCHEME  
FOR SENSOR NETWORKS

A Dissertation

Submitted to the Faculty

of

Purdue University

by

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In Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree

of

Master of Science in Electrical and Electronics Engineering

December 2014

Purdue University

Indianapolis, Indiana

This is the dedication.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This is the acknowledgments.

## PREFACE

This is the preface.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
LIST OF TABLES . . . . .	vii
LIST OF FIGURES . . . . .	viii
SYMBOLS . . . . .	ix
ABBREVIATIONS . . . . .	x
NOMENCLATURE . . . . .	xi
GLOSSARY . . . . .	xii
ABSTRACT . . . . .	xiii
1 Introduction . . . . .	1
1.1 Sensor Networks . . . . .	1
1.2 Internet Of Things . . . . .	1
1.3 Big Data . . . . .	1
1.4 Data Aggregation . . . . .	2
1.5 Cloud Computing . . . . .	2
1.6 Fog Computing . . . . .	2
2 Related Work . . . . .	3
2.1 Secure Aggreagation . . . . .	3
3 Problem Statment and Assumptions . . . . .	4
3.1 Assumptions . . . . .	4
4 Secure Data Aggregation Scheme . . . . .	5
4.1 Network topology . . . . .	5
5 Commitment Tree Generation . . . . .	6
6 Verification of confirmations . . . . .	7
6.1 Network Model . . . . .	7
6.1.1 Sensor Nodes . . . . .	7

	Page
6.1.2 Commitment trees . . . . .	8
6.1.3 Collections of confirmations . . . . .	8
6.1.4 Verification of confirmations . . . . .	9
6.1.5 Algorithm for detecting vertex or vertices who reported authentication codes with NACK messages . . . . .	10
6.1.6 Analysis . . . . .	11
7 Cheating . . . . .	14
7.1 Definition . . . . .	14
7.2 Aim . . . . .	14
7.3 Assumptions . . . . .	14
7.4 What is not cheating ? . . . . .	14
7.5 Probabilistic bound on a cheater . . . . .	15
7.6 Why do we need digital signatures ? . . . . .	17
8 August . . . . .	18
9 Summary . . . . .	20
10 Recommendations . . . . .	21
LIST OF REFERENCES . . . . .	22

## LIST OF TABLES

Table

Page

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Page
6.1 Simulated commitment tree with ACK messages . . . . .	13
6.2 Simulated commitment tree with NACK messages . . . . .	13
7.1 Possible commitment tree . . . . .	15
7.2 Possible commitment tree . . . . .	15
7.3 Possible commitment tree . . . . .	16
7.4 Possible commitment tree . . . . .	17



## SYMBOLS

$m$  mass

$v$  velocity

## ABBREVIATIONS

abbr	abbreviation
bcf	billion cubic feet
BMOC	big man on campus

## NOMENCLATURE

Alanine	2-Aminopropanoic acid
Valine	2-Amino-3-methylbutanoic acid

## GLOSSARY

chick   female, usually young  
dude   male, usually young

## ABSTRACT

Shah, Kavit Master, Purdue University, December 2014. Secure data aggregation scheme for sensor networks. Major Professor: Dr. Brian King.

This is the abstract.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

TIPS: USE ACTIVE VOICE

USE VERBS

DON'T TURN VERBS INTO NOUNS

COMMON MISTAKE: DATA ARE ; DATA IS PLURAL THAT/WHICH

Advancements in compute, storage, networks and sensors technologies have led to many new promising applications.

### 1.1 Sensor Networks

The sensor networks of the near future are envisioned to consist of hundreds to thousands of inexpensive wireless sensor nodes, each with some computational power and sensing capability, operating in an unattended mode. They are intended for a broad range of environmental sensing applications from vehicle tracking to habitat monitoring. Give an example and talk about energy, security constraints.

### 1.2 Internet Of Things

In the world of mass connectivity people need to get information all the time on an array of devices. Everything from your refrigerator to your thermostat is connected to wireless networks and joining the “internet of things”. Write about bandwidth constraints.

### 1.3 Big Data

All the large internet companies process massive amounts of data also know as “Big Data” in real time applications. These include batch-oriented jobs such as

data mining, building search indices, log collection, log analysis, real time stream processing, web search and advertisement selection on big data. To achieve high scalability, these applications distribute large input data set over many servers. Each server processes its share of the data, and generates local intermediate. The set of intermediate results contained on all the servers is then aggregated to generate the final result. Often the intermediate data is large so it is divided across multiple servers which perform aggregation on a subset of the data to generate the final result. If there are  $N$  servers in the cluster, then using all  $N$  servers to perform the aggregation provides the highest parallelism. Talk about compute constraints. [?]

Airplanes are also a great example of “big data”. In a new Boeing Co.747, almost every part of the plane is connected to the Internet, recording and sometimes sending continuous streams of data about its status. According to General Electric Co. in a single flight one of its jet engines generates half a tera bytes of data. This shows that we have too much of data and we are just getting started.

## **1.4 Data Aggregation**

Data aggregation is an important technique used in many system architectures. The key idea is to combine the data coming from different sources eliminating the data redundancy, minimizing the number of packet transmissions thus saving energy, bandwidth and memory usage. This technique allows us to focus more on data centric approaches for networking rather than address centric approaches. [1]

## **1.5 Cloud Computing**

## **1.6 Fog Computing**

## 2. RELATED WORK

### 2.1 Secure Aggreagation

David Wagner in Resilient Aggregation in Sensor Networks describes various attacks on aggregation schemes and introduces stastical estimation theory to secure aggregation. It helps deciding secure aggregation function by defining function is resilient or not.

SIA: Secure Information Aggregation in Sensor Networks proposes secure aggregation scheme for single-aggregator model. It provides stastical security properties.

In contrast, our work presents an approach for the more genral multi-hop aggregation model.



### 3. PROBLEM STATEMENT AND ASSUMPTIONS

#### 3.1 Assumptions

1. Trusted Querier
2. Leaves can report only one value at a time.
3. pre-knowledge of network topology

## 4. SECURE DATA AGGREGATION SCHEME

The goal of this thesis is to examine secure data aggregation schemes for various distributed systems.

Many modern world system designs are distributed in nature. The system design includes small, individual components doing their tasks precisely and lots of these components synchronize with all other components to complete the bigger task.

Many applications of sensor network are inherently distributed in nature. For example, scientific data collection, building health monitoring, building safety monitoring systems are distributed systems. Write an example how data aggregation happens in one particular application. [2]

The application design architecture for the internet of things is distributed as well. Write an example how data aggregation happens in one particular application. [?]

### 4.1 Network topology

Write about how all these distributed systems can be classified into general tree structure.

#### Subsubsection heading

This is a sentence. This is a sentence.

## 5. COMMITMENT TREE GENERATION

**Theorem 5.0.1** *Binary commitment tree is optimal for terms of verification as it requires minimum number of off-path values.*

**Proof** Let us say

$$\log_3(n) = y$$

$$3^y = n$$

$$\log_2(3^y) = \log_2(n)$$

$$y * \log_2(3) = \log_2(n)$$

$$\log_3(n) * \log_2(3) = \log_2(n)$$

$$\log_3(n) = \frac{\log_2(n)}{\log_2(3)}$$

$$2 * \log_3(n) = [2 / \log_2(3)] * \log_2(n) = (1.2618) * \log_2(n)$$

$$2 * \log_3(n) > \log_2(n)$$

■

## 6. VERIFICATION OF CONFIRMATIONS

### 6.1 Network Model

We assume a multihop network with a set  $S = \{s_1, \dots, s_n\}$  of  $n$  sensor nodes. The network is organized in a tree topology, with the base station as the root of the tree. The trusted querier resides outside of the network & has more computation, storage capacity than the sensor nodes in the network. The querier knows total number of sensor nodes  $n$  and that all  $n$  nodes are alive and reachable. The querier also knows the network topology. All the wireless communication is peer-to-peer and we do not consider local wireless broadcast. We also assume that the querier has the capacity to do peer to peer communication with every sensor node in the network. We also assume that all the sensor nodes mapped to the vertices in the commitment tree who reported the authentication codes with NACK messages during the collection of confirmations step are honest.

#### 6.1.1 Sensor Nodes

We assume that each sensor node has a unique identifier  $s$  and shares a unique secret symmetric key  $K_s$  with the querier. We assume all the sensor nodes are capable of doing symmetric- key encryption and symmetric key decryption. They are also capable of computing collision-resistant cryptographic hash function  $H$ . We also assume that if the sensor node has to send multiple messages to its parent it can combine those messages into single packet in a way that parent node can distinguish both the messages.

### 6.1.2 Commitment trees

The aggregation tree is a physical network over which all the communication happens while the commitment tree is a logical network on top of aggregation tree. In the similar manner, vertices in a commitment tree is a logical element in a graph while a sensor node is a physical device.

The commitment trees have the following properties. At most there will be  $\lceil \lg n \rceil$  commitment trees in the forest for an aggregation tree with  $n$  sensor nodes. The binary representation of the number of sensor nodes  $n$  in the network indicates the number of commitment trees in the forest. It also indicates the height of all the commitment trees in the forest. For instance, if there are  $11_{10} = 1011_2$  sensor nodes in the aggregation tree then there will be three commitment trees in the forest. From those three commitment trees, one will be of height three, one will be of height one and one will be of height zero. At most there will be  $n + (n - 1)$  vertices in the forest of commitment trees for an aggregation tree with  $n$  sensor nodes.

*It is also possible that only one sensor node  $s$  in the aggregation tree, will be the root vertex of all the commitment trees in the forest.*

*It is also possible that all the internal vertices in the commitment tree are of different sensor nodes in the aggregation tree.*

### 6.1.3 Collections of confirmations

After each sensor node  $s$  has successfully performed the verification step for its leaf vertex  $u_s$ , it sends an authentication code to its parent in the aggregation tree. The authentication code for sensor node  $s$  is  $\text{MAC}_{K_s}(N||ACK)$  where ACK is an acknowledgement message,  $N$  is the query nonce and  $K_s$  is the secret key that sensor node  $s$  shares with the trusted querier. Once an internal sensor node  $s$  in the aggregation tree has received the authentication codes from all of its descendants, it computes the XOR of its own authentication code with all the received authentication codes, and forwards the result to its parent. Finally, the querier will receive a

single authentication code from the base station that consists of the XOR of all the authentication codes received in the network.

#### 6.1.4 Verification of confirmations

Since the querier knows the secret key  $K_s$  for each sensor node  $s$  in the aggregation tree and it also knows the topology of the commitment trees in the forest, it can simulate the commitment trees in the forest. The querier simulates the commitment trees in the forest by computing the following authentication codes

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{MAC}_{K_1}(N||ACK) \oplus \text{MAC}_{K_2}(N||ACK) \oplus \dots \oplus \text{MAC}_{K_n}(N||ACK) ; \\ & \text{MAC}_{K_1}(N||NACK) \oplus \text{MAC}_{K_2}(N||NACK) \oplus \dots \oplus \text{MAC}_{K_n}(N||NACK) \end{aligned}$$

and creates two simulated commitment trees, one with the authentication codes of ACK messages and one with the authentication codes of NACK messages; where ACK is an acknowledgement message, NACK is a negative acknowledgement message & N is the query nonce. Then the querier merges all the commitment trees in the forest simulated with the authentication codes of ACK messages, by taking XOR of the root of all the commitment trees in the forest and calculates a single root authentication code for the forest simulated with the authentication codes of ACK messages. The querier does the same procedure for the commitment trees' forest simulated with the authentication codes of NACK messages. The querier stores all the simulated commitment trees and root authentication codes in the memory.

The querier receives a single root authentication code from the base station during the collection of confirmation messages step. The querier compares the received root authentication code with the relevant simulated authentication code of ACK messages. If those two codes match it means every vertices in the subtree rooted at that vertex sent the authentication codes with ACK message during collection of

confirmation step. If those two codes do not match it means one or more vertices in the subtree rooted at that vertex sent the authentication codes with NACK message during collection of confirmation step. In the case where root authentication codes do not match, the querier proceeds further to find out which vertex or vertices in the network sent the authentication codes with NACK message during collection of confirmation messages step.

To find out which vertex or vertices in the commitment tree reported the authentication codes with NACK message, the querier asks the base station to send the authentication codes of all the commitment trees' root in the forest. After receiving the authentication codes from the base station, the querier compares those authentication codes with the relevant simulated authentication codes of ACK messages. After this comparison, whose authentication codes do not match, the querier classifies those commitment trees as BAD TREES in the forest.

Then the querier compares the authentication codes of those BAD TREES with the relevant simulated authentication codes of NACK messages. If any of those authentication codes match it means all the vertices rooted in that subtree sent the authentication codes with NACK message during the collection of confirmation step. And the querier stops doing the queries to the subtree rooted at that vertex. If those authentication codes do not match then the querier proceeds further to find the sensor node or nodes who reported the authentication codes with NACK message in BAD TREES.

#### **6.1.5 Algorithm for detecting vertex or vertices who reported authentication codes with NACK messages**

For each BAD TREE in the forest the querier does the following :

1. The querier asks the relevant nodes in the aggregation tree to send the authentication codes of their children in the commitment trees.
2. The querier compares the received authentication codes in step 1 with the authentication codes of the relevant vertices of the commitment trees simulated with the authentication codes of ACK messages. The querier classifies the subtree rooted at those vertices as BAD SUBTREES, whose authentication codes do not match.
3. The querier compares the received authentication codes in step 1 with the authentication codes of the relevant vertices of the commitment trees simulated with the authentication codes of NACK messages. If those codes match it means all the vertices rooted in that subtree reported NACK messages during collection of confirmation steps. And the querier stops doing the queries to that subtree. If those codes do not match then the querier goes to step 2.

The querier follows this algorithm until it finds all the vertices who reported the authentication codes with NACK messages in the commitment trees during collection of confirmation step.

### 6.1.6 Analysis

To simulate the commitment trees in the forest the querier has to do the following calculations. Suppose there are  $n$  sensor nodes in the network, means there will be at most  $\lceil \lg n \rceil$  commitment trees in the forest. If there are  $n'$  leaves in each commitment tree in the forest then the height( $h'$ ) of each commitment tree will be  $\lg(n')$  and the number of intermediate vertices ( $i'$ ) in the network will be  $(2^{h'} - 1)$ . So, there will be total of  $(n' + i') * \lceil \lg n \rceil$  vertices in the forest. As the querier needs to simulate two commitment trees one for ACK messages and one for NACK messages it has to do  $(2 * (n' + i') * \lceil \lg n \rceil)$  calculations.



As we know from the properties of commitment trees, at most there will be  $n + (n - 1)$  vertices in the forest of commitment trees for an aggregation tree with  $n$  sensor nodes. So, the querier has to do  $2 * (n + (n - 1))$  calculations and it also need that much memory space to store those values.

With Dr.King with a single NACK message in a tree:

Maximum number of leaves in a single commitment tree is equal to  $n$ . So, we can upper bound it with  $O(n)$ . As there is a single NACK message in the tree, during verification phase we know in which part that vertex is.

So, we can identify the node in at most  $\log n$  steps. We need  $2 * \log n$  messages to identify that. The querier will have to ask  $\log n$  times and some node from the aggregation tree has to reply  $\log n$  times. This is total number of messages is required but number of communication depends on the aggregation tree.

Worst case: In the worst case, the querier has to ask values of all the vertices in the commitment tree. At max there will be  $(2 * n - 1)$  messages. Again, remember these are the number of messages, number of communications might be different.

Best case in terms of number of communications: It needs minimum number of communications when one single node is everywhere in the aggregation tree. In that case if the querier has to know the values of all the leaves vertices it has to ask  $\log(n)$  questions and node has to reply to those messages. So, number of communication is equal to  $2 * \log(n)$ .

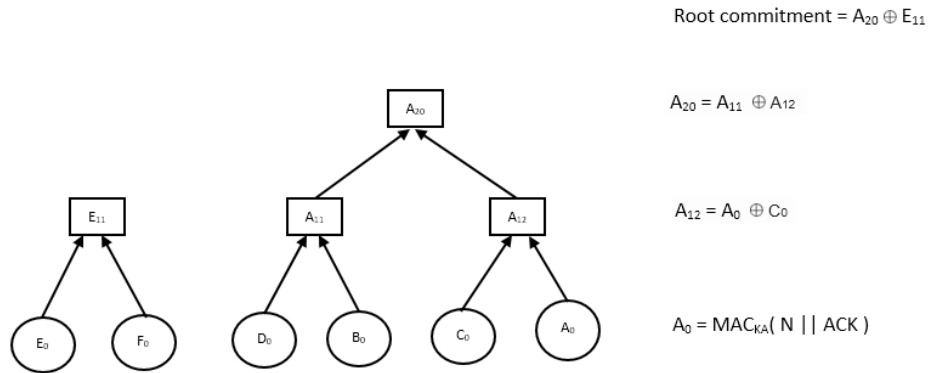


Fig. 6.1. Simulated commitment tree with ACK messages

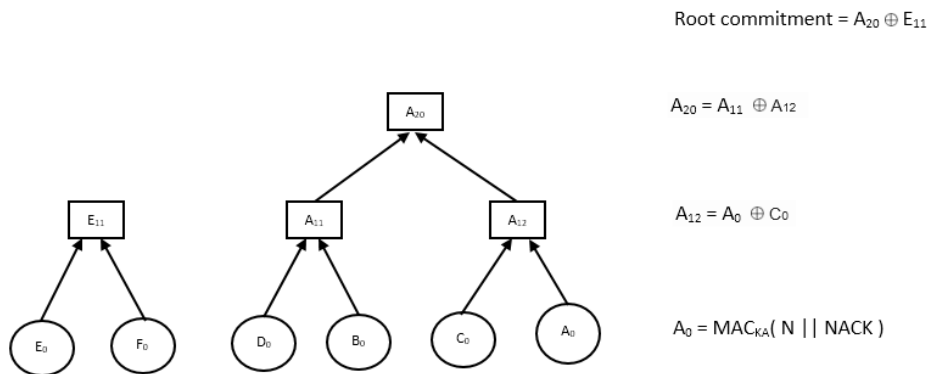


Fig. 6.2. Simulated commitment tree with NACK messages

## 7. CHEATING

### 7.1 Definition

If an aggregator changes the sensor readings reported by its children to skew the final aggregated result is consider as cheating.

### 7.2 Aim

Aim of this section is to detect the cheater with given definition.

### 7.3 Assumptions

We make an assumption that the cheater can not say NACK during verification phase. If a cheater is allowed to send NACK message then it can send NACK messages all the time and create a lot of traffic in the network which might create Denial of service attack.

### 7.4 What is not cheating ?

In figure 7.1, A is an aggregator if A is a cheater it can skew the final aggregation result irrespective of B's sensor reading. We do not consider this case as a cheating because A is adjusting its sensor reading, it's not changing the B's sensor reading.

For example, if maximum allowed value = 10

case I:  $B_0(2) = 5$ ,  $A_0(2) = 13$ ,  $A_1(2) = 18$ . In verification, A will be caught due to out of range off path value.

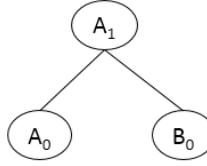


Fig. 7.1. Possible commitment tree

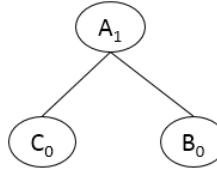


Fig. 7.2. Possible commitment tree

case II:  $B_0(2) = 5$ ,  $A_0(2) = 10$ ,  $A_1(2) = 15$ .  $B'_0(2) = 6$ ,  $A'_0(2) = 9$ . that's not cheating.

Similar arguments can be done for figure 7.2 if A, C both are cheaters. In that case A is adjusting C's sensor reading to skew the final aggregation result and C will not complain as it is a cheater. We do not consider that as cheating either.

## 7.5 Probabilistic bound on a cheater

To derive Probabilistic bound on a cheater using following example.

In figure 7.3, all vertices in a commitment tree are unique. And, remember cheater can not say NACK during verification phase.

- $A_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{I\}$ ,  $\{B, I\}$ ,  $\{B, M\}$  is a cheater.
- $A_0, B_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{I\}$ ,  $\{M\}$ ,  $\{C, D, O\}$  is a cheater.

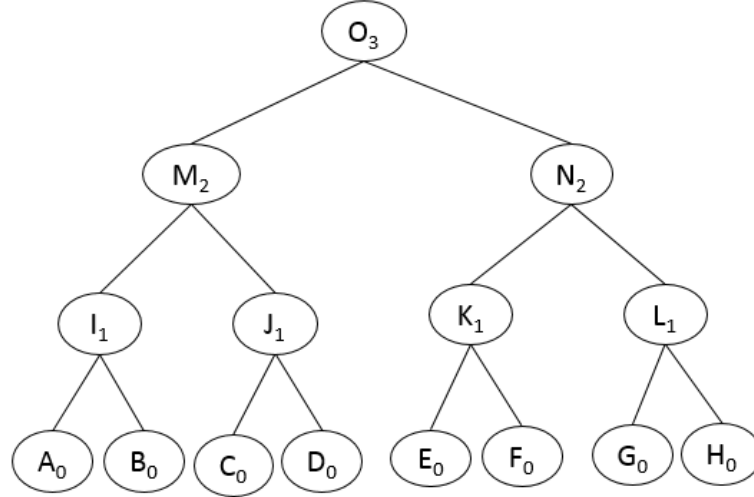


Fig. 7.3. Possible commitment tree

- $A_0, B_0, C_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{J, I\}$ ,  $\{J, M\}$ ,  $\{D, O\}$  is a cheater.
- $A_0, B_0, C_0, D_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{O\}$ ,  $\{M\}$ ,  $\{I, J\}$ ,  $\{E, F, G, H, O\}$  is a cheater.
- $A_0, B_0, C_0, D_0, E_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{O, K\}$ ,  $\{M, K\}$ ,  $\{I, J, K\}$ ,  $\{F, G, H, O\}$  is a cheater.
- $A_0, B_0, C_0, D_0, E_0, F_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{I, J, K\}$ ,  $\{M, N\}$ ,  $\{O, K\}$ ,  $\{O, N\}$  is a cheater.
- $A_0, C_0$  says NACK during verification phase it implies that atleast one of the following is  $\{I\}$ ,  $\{J\}$  is a cheater.

Similar, kind of analysis can be done for figure 7.4 in which all the vertices in the commitment tree are different.

From all above examples we can derive the following pattern as well,

If  $d = \text{depth of a tree}$ ,

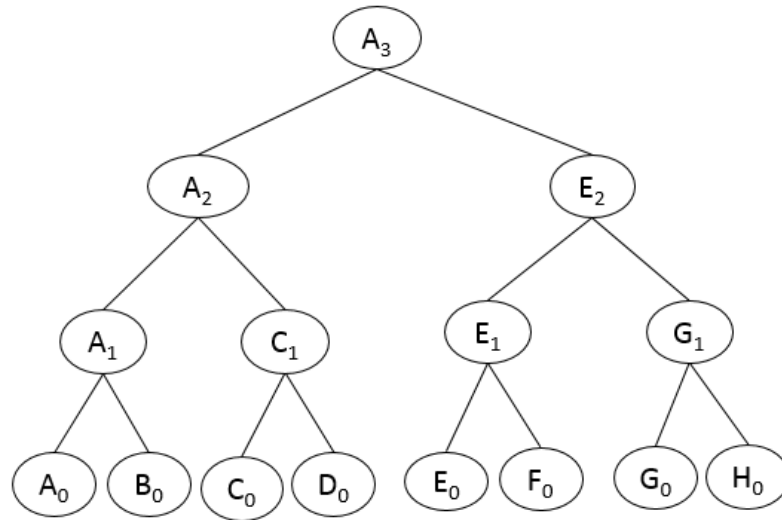


Fig. 7.4. Possible commitment tree

Depth of a cheater	Minimum number of NACK messages
d - 1	1
d - 2	2
d - 3	4
d - 4	8

## 7.6 Why do we need digital signatures ?

Digital signatures allow us to achieve authenticity and integrity of the data.

$$I_1 = \langle 2, 25, H(N||2||25||A0||B0) \rangle$$

$$\text{Signature } I1 = H(K_{IQ} || I_1)$$

$$I_1 = \langle 1, 5, 10 \rangle$$

$$\text{Signature } I_1 = E_{K_I}(H(I_1))$$

## 8. AUGUST

Things discussed in meeting:

Analyzed congestion and why is it sub linear ?

In SHIA leaves verify their values with final results not with intermediate results. But in surveillance application data is compared with some base value in such network intermediate values are important.

Analyze the protocol with Digital signatures. How many signatures do we need ?

Analyze properties of commitment tree.

### Definitions

A **direct data injection attack** occurs when an attacker modifies the data readings reported by the nodes under its direct control, under the constraint that only legal readings in  $[0, r]$  are reported.

An aggregation algorithm is **optimally secure** if, by tampering with the aggregation process, an adversary is unable to induce the querier to accept any aggregation result which is not already achievable by direct data injection.

For example, if A is an aggregator and it receives one reading from B. So, A needs to aggregate two values one of its own and the other is B's value. Suppose, maximum allowed value is 40.  $A_0 = 10$ ,  $B_0 = 20$ .  $A_1 = 30$ .  $A_1 \neq 80$ . If A reports any value out of that range it will get caught and any cheating within the range falls under direct data injection attack.

### Congestion

As a metric for communication overhead, we consider node congestion, which is the worst case communication load on any single sensor node during the algorithm. Congestion is a commonly used metric in ad-hoc networks since it measures how quickly the heaviest-loaded nodes will exhaust their batteries [6, 12]. Since the heaviest-loaded nodes are typically the nodes which are most essential to the connec-

tivity of the network (e.g., the nodes closest to the base station), their failure may cause the network to partition even though other sensor nodes in the network may still have high battery levels. A lower communication load on the heaviest-loaded nodes is thus desirable even if the trade-off is a larger amount of communication in the network as a whole.

For a lower bound on congestion, consider an unsecured aggregation protocol where each node sends just a single message to its parent in the aggregation tree. This is the minimum number of messages that ensures that each sensor node contributes to the aggregation result. There is  $\Omega(1)$  congestion on each edge on the aggregation tree, thus resulting in  $\Omega(d)$  congestion on the node(s) with highest degree  $d$  in the aggregation tree. The parameter  $d$  is dependent on the shape of the given aggregation tree and can be as large as  $\Theta(n)$  for a single-aggregator topology or as small as  $\Theta(1)$  for a balanced aggregation tree. Since we are taking the aggregation tree topology as an input, we have no control over  $d$ . Hence, it is often more informative to consider per-edge congestion, which can be independent of the structure of the aggregation tree.

Consider the simplest solution where we omit aggregation altogether and simply send all data values (encrypted and authenticated) directly to the base station, which then forwards it to the querier. This provides perfect data integrity, but induces  $O(n)$  congestion at the nodes and edges nearest the base station. For an algorithm to be practical, it must cause only sublinear edge congestion.

Our goal is to design an optimally secure aggregation algorithm with only sublinear edge congestion.

1. remove complement
2. variable range



## 9. SUMMARY

This is the summary chapter.

## 10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Buy low. Sell high.

## LIST OF REFERENCES

## LIST OF REFERENCES

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