A Secure Authentication Protocol for Vehicular Ad-Hoc Networks

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Abstract—The recent developments in industry of vehicles and technology based on wireless communication, has led to tremendous progress in vehicular ad-hoc networks. Using the Wireless Sensor Networks (WSNs), the user can get a lot of traffic information like traffic congestion, average speed of vehicles on road, accidents if any occurred, etc. by the network. But these networks also become vulnerable if proper security mechanisms are not put into place. The prime motive behind taking up this project was to try and contribute in the development of such security protocol so that no one can illegally interfere with these networks. Many different security authentication protocols have been made previously but they suffer from one or the other disadvantage. After detailed and thorough reading and analysis of these protocols and their shortcomings, effort has been made to devise a better protocol from these existing ones.

Further, the proposed scheme has been simulated using the widely used "Automated Validation of Internet Security Protocols and Applications" (AVISPA) tool. It makes sure that the protocol is safe from the active and passive attacks and also prevents the replay, man-in-the-middle attacks and various other kinds of attacks. The complete security analysis of the protocol has been done in the presented paper. Also the performance evaluation done on the proposed scheme shows that the given protocol is extremely secureand also has a better complexity in terms of communication cost, estimated time and computation cost.

Keywords—Authentication, AVISPA, VANETs, Security, SHA.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Vehicular Ad-hoc Networks (VANETs)

VANETs use vehicles as mobile nodes and could be defined as a subdivson of mobile ad hoc networks (MANETs) which provide communication channel between mobile vehicles and the roadside units (RSUs) but also differ largely from different networks because of their own unique characteristics like dynamicity. If the necessary details about

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the road is known, future position of a vehicle could be predicted. In broad sense it could be said that the network is dynamic in terms of time and space.

B. Security

Security in streets has become a serious issue for authorities and vehicle manufacturers in the recent decades. The total number of vehicles in the world has risen tremendously, thus increasing the activities in the network and creating more unwanted happenings. Thus being affected by this situation, the industries involved in car manufacturing and telecommunication businesses have began attachingwireless devices to vehicles for interconnection. Communication between cars or the roadside units helps in improving driving safety and exchanging traffic information. Providing security and privacy has come out as the two major challenges within the infrastructure of VANETs. Authentication between all the different parties is required but in contrast, no one wants to reveal his/her real. One may send some wrong messages or pretend like others to send messages. The aim/goal of VANET includes auto crash prevention, more secure streets and clog decrease etc.

C. Our Contribution

The main contributions are:

- It has been shown that the existing protocol suffer from many shortcomings which we have tried to overcome in our protocol.
- The protocol is verified using the AVISPA tool and thus shown that it successfully mutually authenticates thevarious components namely the user, sink and the vehicle sensor.

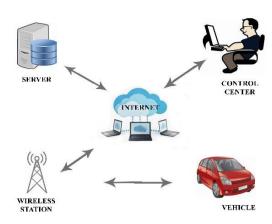


Fig 1 - Network Model of VANETs

II. RELATED STUDY

In the field of security and secrecy in ad hoc networks a number of research works have been done by a lot of researches and numerous protocols have been proposed. In the authentication protocol proposed Amin and Biswas[26],three phases:registration, login and authentication phase are present for their VANET. It has been found out that their scheme is prone to different kinds of attacks such as unauthorized message access attacks, smart access card stolen attack, replay attack etc. The registration message that has been generated in the previous phases is being left without taking any security measures. If some unauthorized person tries to access that RM through the insecure channel, then most probably he gets succeeded in doing so as the registration message is not secured.

He and Xu together proposed a scheme for VANETs [3] that is based on identities and is very efficient. Elliptic Curve Cryptography(ECC) is the main base for their ID based scheme. A point O generates an additive group H of order q on a elliptical curve D: $y2 - x3 + ux + v \mod p$ that is nonsingular. p,q are two prime numbers of 160 bit each and u,v belongs to Z * p. This Elliptic Curve Cryptography approach is very difficult to use and so a better, simple and more secured authentication protocol is to be proposed. This has been done in the proposed scheme. A sound and effectivescheme has been proposed by Islam, Obaidat and Reddy [6]. It is a privacy preserving scheme based on passwords. They found out that the protocols that are implemented using elliptic curve or the bilinear pairing are very time consuming. A hash function has less execution time and is less costly when compared to the costs of numerous operations of elliptical curves. To overcome all these existing attacks they proposed a robust CPPA protocol. But the same registration message security is not considered in this protocol.

This research paper introduces a secure mechanism for wireless networks in VANETs to solve these drawbacks. Research papers done by Chandrakar and Om on cryptanalysis [7-19] are referred for necessary information.

III. PROPOSED SCHEME - ALGORITHM FOR VANETS

- A. Smart Access Card (SAC) Generation & Registration phase:
 - 1) User has a) UID
 - b) PWD
- 2) User generates a random nonce RN_u by user using random number generator function.
- 3) After this, the user calculates the hash values of UID and PWD as HUID and HPWD by appending each with RN_u and hashing them using SHA (Secured Hashing algorithm):- HUID = h (UID \parallel RN $_u$)
- HPWD=h (PWD||RN_u) \rightarrow Phase 1
- 4) Send **HUID**, **HPWD**>to sink node through a secured channel.
- 5) Now at the sink node, a random nonce $RN_{\text{s}\ \text{is}}$ generated using the random number generator function.
- 6) Concatenate both HUID and HPWD with RNs and hash with SHA to produce the Registration message RM:- $RM = h \text{ (HUID} \parallel HPWD \parallel RN_s)$
- 7) Calculate the value SN by hashing concatenation of K_s and HPWD (sink node key):-
- $SN=h(K_s) \oplus h(HPWD) \oplus h(RN_s) \rightarrow Phase 2$
- 8) Store the values SN, RM, RN_s from phase 2 in the highly secured Smart Access Card (SAC).
 - 9) SAC is delivered to the Registered User.
- 10) The user then computes $HN_{\rm u}$ on his own by using his UID, PWD and $RN_{\rm u}$ that are only known to him :-

 $HN_{ij} = h (UID \parallel PWD) \bigoplus RN_{ij}$

Explanation:

User has his own unique User-ID UID and password PWD. It generates a random nonce $RN_{\rm u}$ for user using rand function. In the first phase it calculates hash values of UID and PWD as HUID and HPWD by appending each with $RN_{\rm u}$ and hashing them using SHA (Secured Hashing algorithm).Then a random nonce $RN_{\rm s}$ for sink using rand function is generated.

Both HUID and HPWD are concatenated with RN $_{\rm s}$ and hashed with SHA to produce the Registration message RM. After this, the value SN is calculated by hashing concatenation of K $_{\rm s}$ and HPWD (sink node key). Then the sink node stores the values of SN, RM, RN $_{\rm s}$ from phase 2 in the highly secured

Smart Access Card (SAC) and deliver it to the registered user. The user then computes HN_u on his own by using his UID, PWD and RNu that are only known to him. This HNu is also stored in the SAC. With this the registration of the user gets completed successfully and he has the SAC with the details of SN, RM, RNs, HNu.

SECURED ACCESS CARD MECHANISM



Fig 2 - Smart Card Mechanism

B. Login phase

- 1) User enters a) UID^e
- b) PWD^e
- 2) The random nonce RN_u for user is recalculated using $UID^e,\,PWD^e$ and HN_u (stored in SAC) :-

 $RN_{ij} = h (UID \parallel PWD) \oplus HN_{ij}$

3) Now the user calculate HUID^e and HPWD^e by appending UID^e and PWD^e with RN_u and hashing them using SHA (Secured Hashing algorithm):-

 $HUID^e = h (UID^e \parallel RN_u)$ $HPWD^e = h (PWD^e \parallel RN_u)$

- 4) User concatenates both $HUID_e$ and $HPWD_e$ with RN_s and hash with SHA to produce the Registration message RM_e . $RM_e = h$ ($HUID \parallel HPWD \parallel RN_s$)
 - 5) User checks whether $RM = RM_e$?
- 6) User calculates Mt_s by hashing concatenation of values SN, RM and UN_u :-

 $Mt_s = h (SN \parallel RM \parallel UN_u)$

7) User then calculates P1 by XORing the value of SN with UN_u :-

 $P1 = SN \oplus UN_u$

8) Calculates P_2 by XORing hash value of ID_k (Identity of Kth vehicle sensor)and hash value of concatenation SN and P_1 :-

 $P_2 = ID_k \oplus h (SN || P_1)$

- 9) Calculates P_3 by XORing value RM and RN_s :- $P_3 = RM \bigoplus UN_u$
- 10) Send Mt_s , P_1 , P_2 and P_3 via insecure channel to sink node.

Explanation:

After the completion of registration phase, the user can login to the system to access the network. In the login phase the user enters his User-Id UID and Password PWD. Random nonce RN_u for user is recalculated using UID^e , PWD^e and HN_u that are stored in SAC. Now $HUID^e$ and $HPWD^e$ are calculated by appending UID^e and PWD^e with RN_u and

hashing them using Secured Hashing Algorithm. Concatenate both HUIDe and HPWDe with RNs and hash with SHA to produce the Registration message RMe. Now, the registration message RM is checked whether it is equal to the previous Registration Message RM. If they both match then the further process is continued or else it is discarded and prevented from doing further process. Then generate a random nonce N_u and calculate Mt_s by hashing concatenation of values SN, RM and N_u . Calculate P_2 by XORing hash value of ID_j (Identity of J_{th} sink node) and hash value of concatenation SN and P_1 . Then calculate P_3 by Xoring values of RM and UN_u . Finally all the values $M_{ts},\ P_1,\ P_2,\ P_3$ are sent via insecure channel to sink node. With this the login phase is completed and the most important authentication phase to establish a session starts.

C. Authentication Phase- 1(In sink node)

Authentication phase starts right after the completion of login phase. This phase takes place in three important subphases. The authentication phase 1 takes place at Sink node. All the authentication requirements at this phase are dealt here.

1) Calculate UN_u by XORing SN^e and P₁:-

 $UN_u^e = SN^e \oplus P_1$

2) Calculate ID_k by XORing P_2 with hash value of concatenation SN and P_1 :

 $ID_k = P_2 \bigoplus h (SN^e \parallel P_1)$

3) Calculate RM^e by XORing P₃ with UN_u^e:-

 $RM^e = P_3 \oplus UN_u^e$

4) Calculate M_{ts}^{e} by hashing concatenation of values SN^{e} , RM and UN_{u}^{e} :-

 $M_{ts}^{e} = h (SN^{e} \parallel RM^{e} \parallel N_{u}^{e})$

- 5) Check whether $M_{ts} = M_{ts}^{e}$?
- 6) Generate a random nonce N_i.
- 7) Calculate X_k^* by hashing concatenation of ID_k and K_s $X_k^* = h$ ($ID_k \parallel K_s$)
- 8) Calculate M_{sv} by hashing concatenation of values ID_j , N_j , X_k^* and ID_k (Identity of K^{th} user) :-

 $M_{sv} = h (ID_i || N_i || X_k^* || ID_k)$

- 9) Calculate D_1 by XORing N_j and hash value of ID_i :- $D_1 = N_i \bigoplus h(ID_k)$
- 10) Calculate D_2 by XORing ID_k and hash value of ID_i : $D_2 = ID_i \oplus ID_k$
- 11) Send M_{sv} , D_1 , D_2 via insecure channel to vehicle sensor

In the sink node, N_u is calculated by XORing SN^e and P_1 . In the same way calculate ID_k by XORing P_2 with hash value of concatenation SN and P_1 and then calculate RM^e by XORing P_3 with UN_u^e . Also calculate M_{ts}^e by hashing concatenation of values SN^e , RM and UN_u^e . Now check whether M_{ts}^e generated here is equal to that original message.

If yes, then proceed to the next steps. Generate a random nonce N_i and calculate X_k^* by hashing concatenation of ID_k

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and K_s . M_{sy} is calculated by hashing concatenation of values ID_j , N_j , X_k^* and ID_k (Identity of K^{th} user). Calculate D_1 by XORing N_j and hash value of ID_i . Then D_2 is calculated by XORing ID_k and hash value of ID_i . Send M_{sv} , D_1 , D_2 via insecure channel to vehicle sensor. With this the authentication phase 1 at the sink node is completed.

D. Authentication Phase- 2 (In vehicle sensor)

The authentication phase 2 takes place at vehicle sensor node. All the authentication requirements at this phase are carefully considered and are met.

1) Calculate N_j^e by XORing hash values of ID_k (given by vehicle sensor) and D_1 :-

 $N_i^e = h (ID_k) \oplus D_1$

- 2) Calculate ID_j by XORing SN^e and P_1 :- ID_j = ID_k $\bigoplus D_2$
- 3) Now the X_k value received from the Registration Authority in response to the ID_k sent to them via the secure channel is used.
- 4) Calculate ${M_{sv}}^e$ by hashing concatenation of values ID_j , $N_i,\ X_k$ and ID_k :-

 $M_{sv}^{e} = h \left(ID_{j} \parallel N_{j} \parallel X_{k} \parallel ID_{k} \right)$

- 5) Check whether $M_{sv} = M_{sv}^{e}$?
- 6) Generate a random nonce N_k.
- 7) Calculate V by hashing concatenation of $\ensuremath{\mathrm{ID}}_k$, N_k and N_i :-

 $V = h (ID_k || N_k || N_j)$

8) Calculate M_{vs} by hashing concatenation of values V, N_i and X_k :-

 $M_{vs} = h (V \parallel N_i \parallel X_k)$

9) Calculate T_1 by XORing N_j and N_k :-

 $T_1 = N_i \oplus N_k$

10) Send M_{vs} and T_1 via insecure channel to sink node.

First of all, in the authentication phase 2 at the vehicle sensor the need is to calculate $N_j^{\,e}$ by XORing hash values of ID_k (given by vehicle sensor) and $D_1.Then$ calculate ID_j by XORing SN^e and $P_1.$ Now the X_k value received from the Registration Authority in response to the ID_k sent to them via the secure channel is used. Calculate $M_{sv}{}^e{}_{by}$ hashing concatenation of values $ID_j,\ N_j,\ X_k$ and $ID_k.$ Now check whether M_{sv} that is generated is equal to the $M_{sv}{}^e{}_e{}$ or not. If yes, then the further process takes place. Generate a random nonce N_k and calculate V by hashing concatenation of ID_k , N_k

nonce N_k and calculate V by hashing concatenation of ID_k , N_k and $N_j.$ Calculate M_{vs} by hashing concatenation of values V, N_j and $X_k.T_1$ is calculated by XORing N_j and $N_k.$ Send M_{vs} and T_1 via insecure channel to sink node. With this the authentication phase 2 are vehicle sensor is completed.

E. Authentication Phase- 3 (In Sink Node)

1) Calculate $N_k^{\ e}$ by XORing hash values of N_j and D_1 :- $N_k \!\!= N_j \!\!\!\! \oplus T_1$

2) Calculate \boldsymbol{V}^* by hashing concatenation of $N_k,\,ID_k$ and N_j :-

 $V^* = (ID_k \parallel N_k \parallel N_j)$

3) Calculate $M_{vs}^{\ e}$ hashing concatenation of values $V,\,N_j$ and X_k :-

 $M_{vs}^{e} = h (V^* \parallel N_i \parallel X_k)$

- 4) Check whether $M_{vs} = M_{vs}^{e}$?
- 5) Calculate W by XORing N_i and N_u :

 $W = N_i \bigoplus UN_{ii}$

6) Calculate M_{st} by hashing concatenation of values $SN^e,\,N_u,\,N_j,\,HUID_i$ and ID_k :-

 $M_{st} = h (SN^e \parallel UN_u \parallel N_i \parallel HUID_i \parallel ID_k)$

7) Send M_{st} and W via insecure channel to user.

In the authentication phase 3 again at the sink node the need is to calculate $N_j^{\,e}$ by XORing hash values of ID_k (given by vehicle sensor) and $D_l.$ Then calculate V^* by hashing concatenation of $N_k,\ ID_k$ and $N_j.\ M_{vs}^{\,e}$ is to be calculated by hashing concatenation of values $V,\ N_j$ and $X_k.$ After this check whether M_{vs} is equal to $M_{vs}^{\,\,e}$ or not. If yes , then continue the process. Or else do not continue. Calculate W by XORing N_j and $N_u.Calculate\ M_{st}$ by hashing concatenation of values $SN^e,\ N_u,\ N_j,\ HID_i$ and $ID_k.\ M_{st}$ and W that are calculated in these phases are then sent via insecure channel to user.

(At the User)

- 1) Calculate $N_j^{\ e}$ by XORing hash values of W and N_u :- $N_j^{\ e} \! = \! N_u \oplus W$
- 2) Calculate M_{st}^e by hashing concatenation of values SN^e , N_u , N_j^e , HID_i and ID_k :-

 $M_{st}^{e} = h (SN^{e} || N_{u} || N_{i}^{e} || HID_{i} || ID_{k})$

- 3) $M_{st} = M_{st}^{e}$?
- 4) If yes, than the session is established.

At the user calculate N_j^e by XORing hash values of W and N_u . Calculate M_{st}^e by hashing concatenation of values SN^e , N_u , N_j^e , HID_i and ID_k. Then finally check whether M_{st} is equal to M_{st}^e or not. If yes, than the session is established.



Fig 3 - Schematic Diagram for Smart VANETs

IV. SECURITY ANALYSIS

A detailed analysis of security in the proposed scheme is carried out in this section and thus it has been proven that

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mutual authentication between units is provided by the proposed protocol. It has also been demonstrated that the security mechanism can resist different attacks such as trace, impersonation, smart card stolen attack, replayattacks, modification attack, man in the middle attack and alteration attacks.

A. Impersonation attack

These attacks are executed by sending the target a message in which the sender attempts to impersonate as a trusted source. This is done in order to gain access to the critical and sensitive information of the target, such as financial data.

If an intruder U_a tries to impersonate as atrue user U_i , U_a must initiate a login request message $\{M_{ts}, P_1, P_2, P_3\}$ successfully. However, U_a is unable to compute these because U_a do not know the actual identity of U_i and its hidden parameters SN, RM and N_u . In addition, U_a does not retrieve a random nonce RN_u . Therefore, our protocol gives immunity towards impersonation attacks because U_a can never produce valid messages.

B. Traceability Attack and Anonymity

In this type of attack, by examining all the inward and outward ports starting from the first host under attack, the intruder tracks the existing attack flow. In our protocol, an attacker U_a cannot trace anauthorised user U_i or vehicle. This is because for every session the messages that are transmitted are continuously changed. Also, U_i sends the dynamic identity $HUID = h \ (UID \parallel RN_u), \ HPWD = h \ (PWD \parallel RN_u), \ and \ RM = h \ (HUID \parallel HPWD \parallel RN_s)$ to the sink node. To track a true user's work or movement, an attacker must have information about the user's true identity UID, unique password PWD, and nonce RN_u . Because of these reasons, security against traceability attacks and anonymity are provided by this protocol.

C. Smart Access Card Stolen Attack

It is assumed that an adversary U_a can obtain a Smart Access Card (SAC) and extract the parameters {SN, RM, RNs, HNu}. As the parameters that are stored in the smart card are masked as RM = h (HUID \parallel HPWD \parallel RNs), SN = h(Ks) \bigoplus h(HPWD) \bigoplus h(RNs), HNu = h (UID \parallel PWD) \bigoplus RNu, Mts = h (SN \parallel RM \parallel Nu) by the hash function and XOR operation, the adversary cannot obtain any important information without UID and PWD.

D. Replay Attack

It is assumed that an attacker U_a tries to impersonate as an authentic user U_i by again sending the messages sent in the previously occurred session, U_a cannot mimic U_i successfully. In our proposed protocol, the sink node makes sure that the random nonce is fresh and used previously. The login request is rejected if the random nonce used is not fresh. As U_a cannot get random nonce RN,registration message Mts cannot be successfully generated. Thus it couldbe said that the proposed

protocol has the immunity to resist itself from all kinds of replay attacks.

E. Man in the Middle Attack

The security analysis that has been done by authenticating the message helps us to infer that the proposed scheme will provide authentication by using the extra variable P_3 for XORing Registration message with random nonce. Therefore, the protocol proposed by us can very well provide security against this kind of attack.

F. Alteration Attack

If an intruder tries to modify the contents present in the network, then it comes under alteration attack. From the algorithm of the protocol, it could be inferred that $\{M_{ts}, P_1, P_2, P_3\}$ is a digital signature. Based on this, any alteration of the message $\{M_{ts}, P_1, P_2, P_3\}$ could be found by ensuring whether the equation $M_{ts} = M_{ts}^{\ e}$ holds. Therefore, the given scheme prevents these kinds of attacks.

V. AVISPA TOOL VALIDATION

Validation of the protocol that is proposed is done in this section. This validation is done by a widely used and accepted software tool called AVISPA. It stands for "Automatic validation of Internet Security Protocol and Applications".

AVISPA code

SUMMARY SAFE DETAILS BOUNDED NUMBER OF SESSIONS TYPED_MODEL PROTOCOL /home/span/span/testsuite/results/minor.if GOAL As Specified BACKEND CL-AtSe STATISTICS Analysed: 0 states Reachable: 0 states Translation: 0.29 seconds Computation: 0.00 seconds

ATSE verification

File	
% OFMC	
% Version of 2006/02/13	
SUMMARY	
SAFE	
DETAILS	
BOUNDED_NUMBER_OF_SESSIONS	
PROTOCOL	
/home/span/span/testsuite/results/minor.if	
GOAL	
as_specified	
BACKEND	
OFMC	
COMMENTS	
STATISTICS	
parseTime: 0.00s	
searchTime: 0.22s	
visitedNodes: 8 nodes	
depth: 3 plies	

OFMC verification

VI. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Comparison of our protocol's communication and computation costs with other protocols [21, 22, 23 and 24] that are similar to it and discussing their various properties related to security is done in this section.

A. Computation Cost

The overheads of presented protocol have been compared with those of the similar protocols[21, 22, 23 and 24]. The following notation has been used to compare the computation cost. T_h , T_a and T_e denotes the usage of hash operation, scalar point operation and curve cryptographic operation respectively

The computation cost of our protocol is $8T_h$ for user, $13T_h$ for sink, $4T_h$ for vehicle sensor. Therefore the entire

computation cost for this protocol is $25T_h$ seconds which is quite low.

Schemes	User	Sink Node	Sensor	Total cost
Choi et al. [21]	12T _h + 3T _e	$5T_h + T_e$	$7T_h + 2T_e$	$24T_h + 6T_e$
Xue et al. [22]	$10T_{\rm h}$	$14T_h$	$6T_h$	$30T_h$
Chang et al.[23]	15T _h	18T _h	6T _h	39T _h
Kumari and Om[24]	$10T_{\rm h}$	8T _h	$6T_h$	24T _h
Ours	8T _h	13T _h	$4T_h$	25T _h

T_h: One-way hash operation, T_a: Symmetric key Cryptographic operation, T_e: Elliptic curve scalar point multiplication operation.

B. Security properties

The protocol proposed by us is capable of resisting various attacks that were possible in other protocols which lack security from various attacks. Considering these things in mind, we can, say that our protocol offers better security.

Security Protocol	Choi et al. [21]	Xue et al. [22]	Chang et al. [23]	Kumari and Om [24]	Ours
Impersonation Attack	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Smart Access Card stolen	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Anonymity	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Trace Attack	No	No	No	No	Yes

C. Communication Cost

For the analysis of communication cost, we clearly know that operations used in curve cryptographic operation are costlier than hashing operations. Consequently, the total Communication Cost of our proposed scheme is very low than other protocols as they use costly operations. So, our protocol is communication cost efficient.

Search time for our proposed protocol is nearly 0.22 secs which is very less when compared to other protocols which are nearly 0.35 secs. Total parse time is 0.00 secs. A total number of nodes that are visited is equal to 8 which is almost twice to the previous authentication protocols which visit only 4. A depth of 3 piles is obtained by implementing the system with our proposed protocol and the results are very good as the previous protocols reach a depth of only 2 piles.

Translation time of only 0.29 secs is also an added advantage where the other systems have it nearly to 0.45 secs. Computation time is also as low as 0.00 secs.

VII. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE SCOPE

In this research paper, efforts are made to develop a new security mechanism for VANETs in Wireless Sensor Network to overcome the issue of road moving vehicles like relief from traffic congestion and other similar problems. An efficient authentication protocol that is immune from various external attacks has been proposed. The security analysis done on the proposed protocol shows that it has a better performance and enhanced security without increasing the overall cost. Simulation using AVISPA tool has also been done, which

shows that attacks like smart card stolen attack and replay attack do not have any impact on our proposed scheme. The protocol proposed by us has its direct application in vehicular system. In the future, the cloud technology and IOT could also be included in order to come out with a more enhanced and practically suitable authentication protocol.

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