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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

# PSAF-IoT: Physically Secure Authentication Framework for the Internet of Things

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**ABSTRACT** The Internet of Things (IoT) revolutionizes connectivity, as IoT devices grow exponentially, vulnerabilities emerge, ranging from data breaches to device hijacking. Thus there is the critical need for robust security measures, including encryption protocols and authentication mechanisms, to safeguard against cyber threats. Despite advancements in the authentication mechanism, still IoT security remains an ongoing concern. Because most of the authentications are vulnerable to diverse security attacks and other resource intensive. Thus protecting user data in this increasingly interconnected IoT-enabled world requires a secure and lightweight authentication mechanism. In this direction, in this paper, we propose a physically secure authentication framework for the IoT (PSAF-IoT). PSAF-IoT utilizes a combination of physical unclonable functions, secure hash algorithm, and elliptic curve cryptography to establish robust security measures. It guarantees the creation of a secure channel (session key) following user authentication at the gateway node, allowing the user to use the established secure channel for future communication. The secure channel establishment procedure is validated for security by employing formal methods such as the random oracle model and Scyther-based simulations. Additionally, PSAF-IoT undergoes informal validation to demonstrate resilience against node capture, replay attacks, impersonation, and other common security threats. Notably, PSAF-IoT demonstrates efficiency in terms of execution time, energy consumption, and communication costs, as evidenced by comparative analyses with related authentication frameworks, all while enhancing information security functionalities.

**INDEX TERMS** Session key, authentication, elliptic curve cryptography, security, Internet of Things, PUF.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Internet of Things (IoT) has appeared as a transformative force, revolutionizing the way we interact with technology and the physical world [1]. By interconnecting everyday devices and objects, IoT promises remarkable convenience, efficiency, and innovation across various domains, including healthcare, transportation, agriculture, and manufacturing. However, this instantaneous expansion of interconnected IoT devices also brings forth noteworthy challenges, particularly in the realm of information security [2]. As IoT

ecosystems continue to grow, concerns encompassing data privacy, integrity, and security have become increasingly prominent [3]. The inherent vulnerabilities associated with IoT devices, such as limited computational resources, lack of standardized security protocols, and susceptibility to cyber attacks, pose serious risks to both individuals and organizations. Unauthorized access, data breaches, and malicious exploitation of IoT devices can lead to severe consequences, ranging from compromised personal information to widespread disruption of critical infrastructure [4].

A specific example of critical infrastructure is a smart factory, where various resource-constrained IoT devices are deployed to perform actuation, sensing, and monitoring tasks.

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The administrator of the smart factory monitors these IoT devices remotely from an office by sending various control commands [5]. Since these commands are sensitive and transmitted over a public communication channel susceptible to security attacks, they can be compromised by attackers. An attacker could modify control commands and other sensitive information exchanged between the IoT devices and the administrator, disrupting the smart factory's production process [6]. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure that only authenticated users can communicate with the IoT-enabled smart factory network, and the information exchanged between the administrator and IoT devices must be encrypted [7]. Addressing these security concerns necessitates a comprehensive approach that ensures information security within the IoT environment. One notably promising solution that has garnered attention in recent years is authentication and key agreement (AKA), a mechanism to enhance information security in IoT environments. In this context, numerous AKA frameworks have been proposed for the IoT environment [8]. However, many of them are vulnerable to various security attacks, while others are computationally intensive. Additionally, most of these frameworks do not offer physical security measures. This paper endeavors to delve into the intricacies of AKA and design a framework tailored to bolster information security within the IoT ecosystem. Through an in-depth exploration of AKA principles, key features, and real-world implementations, our objective is to develop an AKA framework that enables secure communication within the IoT environment. Additionally, the proposed framework must offer resistance to various security attacks and ensure physical security.

## II. RELATED WORK

AKA frameworks play a paramount role in improving information security within the IoT ecosystem. However, a comprehensive examination of existing literature reveals that many AKA frameworks have been proposed for IoT environments, and many fall short of providing satisfactory physical security measures. In [9] the authors introduced a new AKA framework. Informally assessed against a range of security attacks, the proposed AKA framework demonstrates logical correctness by employing BAN logic. However, it is significant to mention that the AKA framework is weak against desynchronization attacks and demonstrates computational inefficiencies. In [10] the authors presented a secure AKA framework tailored for the IoT, specifically developed to enable remote access to sensing devices by legitimate or administrator users. The proposed AKA framework presented in [10] is susceptible to different attacks, including denial of service (DoS), sensor node capture, desynchronization, and replay attacks during the fourth phase. In [11] the author devised a two-factor user AKA framework for smart homes established on elliptic curve cryptography (ECC). The AKA framework experienced a formal security analysis using the random oracle model and was also validated through the

Proverif tool. The AKA framework demonstrates resilience against various security threats, including replay, DoS, session key, forward secrecy, and password-guessing attacks. In [12] the authors proposed a secure AKA framework tailored for future IoT environments. The authors of [12] conducted both formal and informal security analyses, substantiating the protocol's robustness against noteworthy security attacks while functioning within constrained communication, computation, and storage resources. In [13] the authors devised a secure 3-factor AKA framework tailored for IoT-enabled smart homes, striving to give authorized users access to secure home services. Their AKA framework boasts resilience against diverse security threats, including impersonation and session key disclosure attacks. Despite its resilience, a crucial design flaw affected their AKA framework incapable of achieving mutual authentication.

In [14] the authors presented an AKA technique, which proffers perfect forward secrecy (PFS) and robust resistance against impersonation and modification attacks. However, it incurs a slightly elevated execution time and is susceptible to clock desynchronization and traceability attacks. In [15] the authors proposed an AKA technique, which eliminates the clock desynchronization issue and exhibits resistance against impersonation, man-in-the-middle (MITM), and replay attacks while guaranteeing PFS. Nonetheless, it stays powerless against modification and traceability attacks. In [16] the authors presented an authentication scheme, which handles clock desynchronization issues and presents resistance against impersonation, replay, password-guessing, and MITM attacks while guaranteeing PFS. However, it stays susceptible to modification attacks. In [17] the author presented an AKA mechanism for IoT devices and servers employing secure vaults. However, the designed AKA mechanism confronts challenges with keys of equal size, which can lead to offline password-guessing attacks or cloning attempts. In [18] the author suggested a PUF-based AKA scheme for the IoT, integrating ECC to lessen execution time and storage overhead during the AKA phase. In [19] the authors developed a PUF-based AKA scheme for IoT environments, leveraging wireless signal characteristics to secure devices from spoofing, cloning, tampering, and other attacks. In [20] the authors offered an AKA scheme for IoT devices, yet it lacks efficiency against offline password-guessing attacks. In [28] the authors delivered an AKA scheme for smart cities, facilitating AKA between IoT sensors and receivers employing ECC. In [21] the authors proposed a protected AKA scheme to establish a session key between IoT devices and receivers. Despite its efficiency, the technique involves complex mathematical operations that require robustness for high-speed wireless environments.

In [22], an AKA method for IoT-enabled WSNs established on temporal credentials is presented, striving for robustness. Despite its strengths, vulnerabilities are found in the AKA strategy introduced in [23], which utilizes ECC and a hash algorithm. These vulnerabilities incorporate defenselessness

to DoS, session key compromise, and impersonation attacks. In [24], an AKA mechanism is suggested, but it falls short of supplying a satisfactory user anonymity shield and lacks an efficient technique for password update. An anonymous AKA procedure employing chaotic maps and the hash algorithm is outlined in [25], with its security corroborated operating the BAN logic model. However, vulnerabilities are determined in an AKA procedure conceived for the cloud-enabled IoT environment employing ECC and a hash function, as provided in [26]. This technique involves four participants during the AKA phase and is corroborated for security employing BAN logic. Additionally, [27] presents an AKA procedure based on AEAD and a hash function, with security corroborated accomplished operating ROM and Scyther. Another AKA procedure relying on a hash function is examined in [28], which is encountered to be powerless to diverse security attacks as documented in [26]. The security of this technique is demonstrated by employing Scyther. Lastly, the security framework offered in [29], which operates ECC and hash algorithm, is susceptible to stolen smart card attacks. Similarly, the security framework in [30] does not effectively thwart DoS attacks. The scheme introduced in [31] is also discovered to be powerless against DoS attacks.

#### A. MOTIVATION AND RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION

In Section II, we reviewed various authentication schemes specifically designed for IoT networks. Many of these schemes are not suitable for the resource-constrained nature of IoT due to their high computational requirements, execution time, and communication costs. Additionally, most of them have been proven vulnerable to various security attacks and do not provide physical security. To address these challenges, this paper proposes a physically secure authentication framework for IoT, named PSAF-IoT. The main contributions of this paper are as follows:

- In this paper, we introduce an AKA framework leveraging hash functions, ECC, and PUF. The proposed PSAF-IoT allows only authorized users to access the IoT network and establish a session key, enabling encrypted communication between users/administrators and IoT devices deployed in the IoT-enabled environment. PSAF-IoT mitigates insider attacks by not storing the gateway's permanent secret key in its database. Instead, the PUF is utilized to derive the gateway's permanent secret key.
- Formal analysis is conducted using the Scyther tool, demonstrating PSAF-IoT's resilience against various attacks. Additionally, informal security analysis indicates that PSAF-IoT is resistant to MITM, DoS, replay, impersonation, and password-guessing attacks.
- The efficiency of the proposed PSAF-IoT is evaluated in terms of communication cost, energy consumption, and execution time as compared to [32], [33], and [34]. It is observed that PSAF-IoT requires [24.76% to 70.52%] lower communication cost, and [35.5% to 78.66%]

shorter execution time compared to related security schemes.

#### B. PAPER OUTLINE

The layout of the paper is outlined as follows. In Section III, we delve into the details of authentication and attack models, as well as provide background knowledge. The phases involved in developing PSAF-IoT are elaborated in Section IV. Security evaluation of PSAF-IoT is discussed in Section V. Efficiency and effectiveness comparisons between PSAF-IoT and other related schemes are presented in Section VI. Finally, we conclude the paper in Section VII by outlining the findings.

### III. SYSTEM MODELS AND PRELIMINARIES

#### A. NETWORK MODEL

We utilize the network model for user authentication and session key generation, depicted in Figure 1. The model consists of an IoT devices ( $ITD_k$ ), a gateway ( $GW_j$ ), and a user ( $U_i$ ).

In an IoT-enabled smart factory or similar environments,  $ITD_k$  collect information from the production plant and transmit this gathered data to either  $U_i$  or the  $GW_j$ .  $ITD_k$  communicate the collected information to  $GW_j$  using wireless communication channels, such as Wi-Fi.

A  $GW_j$  serves as a central element in an IoT environment, providing essential functionalities such as data aggregation, protocol translation, security enforcement, local processing, and connectivity management.  $GW_j$  also handles access control within IoT networks deployed in smart factories or other IoT-enabled environments. The  $GW_j$  keeps records of sensitive information associated with both users and IoT devices deployed within the environment. This sensitive information is employed to grant access only to specific users, ensuring reliable connectivity to the IoT network. The IoT  $GW_j$  connects to IoT networks using Wi-Fi and LoWPAN communication technologies, while it connects to users through cellular and WAN technologies.

In the IoT network,  $U_i$  acts as the operator or administrator of the smart factory. The administrator controls the smart factory production remotely, exchanging sensitive control commands with the deployed  $ITD_k$  to manage various functions of the production plant. To ensure reliable and accurate information exchange between  $ITD_k$  and  $U_i$ , a secure channel is essential. Therefore, this paper proposes an AKA framework to guarantee encrypted communication between the user and IoT devices. Table 1 lists the notations used in the paper to facilitate smooth reading and comprehension.

#### B. ATTACK MODEL

The proposed AKA framework utilized the well-established Dolev-Yao [35], [36] adversary model to illustrate the capabilities of potential adversaries within the system. In this scenario, communication between entities occurs over an insecure channel with untrustworthy end devices.

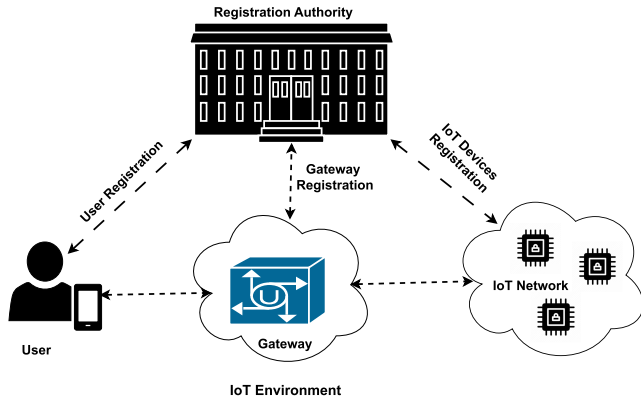


FIGURE 1. Network model for user authentication.

TABLE 1. Notations.

Notation	Description
$U_i$	User
RA	Registration authority
$ITD_k$	IoT device
$PW_i$	password of $U_i$
$\oplus$	XOR function
$C$	Challenge
$RP$	Response
$PUF()$	PUF function
$\mathcal{A}$	Adversary or attacker
$UD_i$	User device
$GW_j$	IoT gateway
$ID_i$	Identity $ID_i$
$Bio_i$	Biometric information of $U_i$
$\parallel$	Concatenation operation
$E(a, b)$	Epileptic curve
$PK_g$	Public key of the gateway
$PK_k$	Public key of the IoT device
$P$	Base or generation point
$H$	Helper data
$Gen(\cdot)$	FE based key generation algorithm
$Rep(\cdot)$	FE based key regeneration algorithm
$H(\cdot)$	Hash function

According to this model, the adversary is assumed to have complete control over the communication channel. Essentially, the adversary possesses the ability to intercept, modify, retransmit, fabricate, and delete any data transmitted over the insecure network. It is crucial to consider scenarios where a smart card is stolen or lost, as this could potentially lead to the leakage of stored secret credentials due to sophisticated power analysis attacks by adversaries.

Canetti and Krawczyk’s adversary model (CK-adversary model) [37] offers a framework for modeling AKA protocols. This model considers not only the exposure of secrets but also the leakage of session keys, session states, and session ephemeral secrets. Even if certain confidential information, such as session-specific temporal data or session keys, is compromised by an adversary, the adversary should not gain any additional advantage to access other related credentials. Simultaneously, the compromise should minimally impact the secrecy of other sessions.

### C. PRELIMINARIES

#### 1) ELLIPTIC CURVE CRYPTOGRAPHY

Suppose that  $p$  is a large prime number. The description of an elliptic curve  $E(a, b)$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_p$  is  $E(a, b): y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ , where  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{F}_p$ ,  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_p$ ,  $\mathbb{F}_p$  and  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$  are the “algebraic closure” of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  [27], [38], [39].  $P$  is the “generator” or “base point” of  $E$ . The two challenging issues in ECC are the “ECDLP” and the “ECDHP”.

*Definition 1: The “ECDLP” is the challenge for determining the integer  $x$  provided an elliptic curve  $E(a, b)$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , a point  $P$  on that curve, and another point  $PK = xP$ , where  $x$  is an integer chosen at random. Mathematically,*

$$PK = xP \text{ where } k \in \mathbb{Z},$$

and the goal of the attacker is to find  $x$  given  $E(a, b)$ ,  $P$ , and  $PK$ .

*Definition 2: The “ECDHP” is the challenge of figuring out the secret that is shared  $S$  given an elliptic curve  $E(a, b)$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , a base point  $P$  on that curve, and public keys  $PK_1 = aP$  and  $PK_2 = bP$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers selected at random. The mathematical formula for the shared secret is*

$$S = aPK_2 = bPK_1 \text{ where } a, b \in \mathbb{Z},$$

The objective of the attacker is to calculate  $S$  given  $E(a, b)$ ,  $P$ ,  $PK_1$ , and  $PK_2$ .

#### 2) PHYSICAL UNCLONABLE FUNCTION

PUFs employ the intrinsic physical attributes of a device, such as manufacturing discrepancies like delay variations or impedance fluctuations [40]. PUFs serve as the “fingerprint” of hardware, with their responses containing inherent identity information. This quality makes them particularly valuable in the domain of IoT, particularly for tasks like secure key generation and identity verification, where robust security measures are essential [40]. Mathematically, we imply a PUF as  $R = PUF(C)$ , where  $C$  describes the challenge and  $R$  symbolizes the response. To preserve constant PUF output despite temperature fluctuations, a fuzzy extractor (FE) is utilized. This technique improves the dependability and applicability of PUFs across diverse strategies and applications.

#### 3) FUZZY EXTRACTOR

The utilization of FE can effectively mitigate the impact of environmental noise on PUF responses. A FE comprises two integral functions: a probabilistic key generation function denoted as  $Gen(\cdot)$ , and a deterministic reconstruction function represented by  $Rep(\cdot)$  [41], [42]. These functions are described below:

- $Gen(\cdot)$  function after acquiring the string  $R$  as an input and returns two outputs, a secret key  $k \in \{0, 1\}^n$  and

reproduction data  $h \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , which may be stated as follows:  $Gen(R) = (k, h)$ .

- If the Hamming distance between  $R$  and  $R'$  is insignificant,  $Rep(\cdot)$  function will recover the secret key  $k$  using  $R'$  and the reproduction data  $h \in \{0, 1\}^*$  as inputs:  $(k) = Rep(h, R')$ .

## IV. THE PROPOSED PSFA-IoT FRAMEWORK

The construction of the proposed PSFA-IoT is detailed in the following subsections.

### A. $GW_j$ REGISTRATION

RA selects the system parameters, such as elliptic curve  $E(a, b)$ , base point  $P$  and distributes these parameters in IoT environment. In addition, for the registration of  $GW_j$  selects the parameters such as  $C_1$  and sends  $\{E(a, b), P, C_1\}$  to  $GW_j$  securely.  $GW_j$  after getting  $\{E(a, b), P, C_1\}$  selects a random number  $R_1$  and computes  $RP_1 = PUF(C_1)$  and acquires the stable key  $(K_1, H_1) = Gen(RP_1)$ ,  $Q_1 = H(K_1 \parallel R_1)$  and public key  $PK_g = (Q_1 \cdot P)$ .  $GW_j$  makes  $PK_g$  public and stores  $\{C_1, H_1, R_1, PK_g\}$  in its own database.

### B. $ITD_k$ REGISTRATION

RA assigns a distinctive challenge  $C_2$  and a private key  $K_2$ , sending  $\{C_2, K_2\}$  to  $ITD_k$  via a secure communication channel. Additionally,  $ITD_k$  is equipped with a PUF. Upon receiving  $\{C_2, K_2\}$ ,  $ITD_k$  calculates  $RP_2 = PUF(C_2)$  and acquires the stable key  $(K_3, H_2) = Gen(RP_2)$ . Furthermore,  $ITD_k$  computes the public key  $PK_k = (K_2 \cdot P)$ ,  $Q_2 = H(PK_k)$ , the identity of the IoT device  $ID_k = (Q_2^a \oplus Q_2^b)$  where  $Q_2^a$  and  $Q_2^b$  are two equal chunks of  $Q_2$ , and  $Q_3 = K_2 \oplus H(K_3 \parallel H_2)$ . Finally,  $ITD_k$  stores  $\{C_2, H_2, Q_3, PK_k, Q_{33}\}$  in its memory and securely sends  $PK_k$  to the RA.

### C. USER DEVICE REGISTRATION

$U_i$  acts as the remote user requiring access to devices within the IoT network. Its preliminary goals include acquiring real-time data from IoT devices and issuing control commands to them. To accomplish this,  $U_i$  must register with the RA before starting any communication with the IoT network.

$U_i$  possesses a user device ( $UD_i$ ) equipped with a biometric information ( $Bio_i$ ) reader and an interface capable of accepting user identity ( $ID_i$ ) and password ( $PW_i$ ) inputs. Upon receiving these inputs,  $UD_i$  computes  $(\sigma_i, H_3) = Gen(Bio_i)$ ,  $Q_4 = H(\sigma_i \parallel ID_i)$ , and  $Q_5 = H(\sigma_i \parallel ID_i \parallel PW_i)$  and transmits the parameters  $\{ID_i, Q_4, Q_5\}$  to the RA. RA after getting these parameters  $\{ID_i, Q_4, Q_5\}$  computes  $SID_i = H(ID_i \parallel R_1)$ ,  $Q_6 = (Q_4 \cdot PK_g)$ ,  $Q_7 = (Q_5 \oplus H(K_1 \parallel R_1))$ , and  $Q_8 = H(Q_6 \parallel Q_5)$ . Furthermore, the RA assigns the public key  $PK_k$  of the IoT device, allowing  $U_i$  to access real-time information. The RA then sends the parameters  $\{Q_8, PK_k, PK_g\}$ . Upon receiving the parameters,  $UD_i$  calculates  $Q_9 = H(Q_8 \parallel PK_k \parallel PK_g \parallel Q_5)$  and stores the parameters  $\{Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3\}$  in its database.

### D. AKA PHASE

$U_i$  must first authenticate with  $GW_j$  before connecting to the IoT device within the IoT network. Once mutual authentication with  $GW_j$  is achieved,  $U_i$  establishes a session key with the IoT device in the network. This session key is then utilized for encrypting future communications between the IoT device and  $U_i$ . The following algorithms outline the process for establishing the session key.

Algorithm 1 initiates the execution of the AKA phase, taking the parameters  $\{ID_i, PW_i, Bio_i, Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3\}$  as inputs. At  $UD_i$ , the biometric key is computed using the biometric information  $Bio_i$  and helper data. Furthermore,  $UD_i$ , using  $PW_i$  and  $ID_i$  as input parameters, calculates  $Q_4^*$ ,  $Q_5^*$ , and  $Q_6^*$ , culminating in the computation of  $Q_8$ . To corroborate the authenticity of  $U_i$ ,  $UD_i$  checks the condition  $Q_8^* = Q_8$ . Upon satisfying this condition,  $UD_i$  then verifies the integrity of the stored parameters in its memory through the condition  $Q_9^* = Q_9$ . If both conditions are met,  $UD_i$  completes local authentication and proceeds to generate the AKA message  $M_1$ .

After generating the random numbers  $R_2, R_3$ , and  $R_4$ , along with timestamps  $T_i$ ,  $UD_i$  computes the public key  $Q_{10}$  and secret shares  $Q_{11}$  and  $Q_{12}$ . Additionally,  $UD_i$  calculates the parameters for message  $M_1$ , including  $Q_{14}$ ,  $Q_{15}$ , and  $Q_{16}$ . Here,  $Q_{16}$  serves as the parameter to corroborate the integrity of message  $M_1$  at the receiving end. Finally,  $UD_i$  constructs the message  $M_1$  with the parameters  $\{T_i, Q_{10}, Q_{14}, Q_{15}, Q_{16}\}$  and transmits  $M_1$  to  $GW_j$  via a public communication channel.

Algorithm 2 begins execution by taking the parameters  $\{C_1, H_1, R_1, PK_g, Q_7, T_i, Q_{10}, Q_{14}, Q_{15}, Q_{16}\}$  as inputs. Initially,  $GW_j$  verifies the freshness of the received  $M_1$  and then computes the stable secret key using the PUF function and Upon computing the stable secret key,  $GW_j$  derives the secret share  $Q_{17}$ . Using this secret share,  $UD_i$  calculates  $(R_3 \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3))$  and  $SID_i$ .  $GW_j$  obtains  $Q_5$  from  $Q_7$ . Finally,  $GW_j$  computes  $Q_{16}$  and verifies the condition  $Q_{16}^* = Q_{16}$ . If this condition is satisfied,  $GW_j$  trusts the authenticity of the received message  $M_1$ . After validating the authenticity of  $M_1$ ,  $GW_j$  computes  $SID_k$  and verifies its presence in its database. If  $SID_k$  is found,  $GW_j$  generates  $T_j$  and calculates the parameter  $Q_{18}$ . This  $Q_{18}$  acts as the authenticity verification parameter. Finally,  $GW_j$  constructs the message  $M_2$  with parameters  $\{T_j, Q_{10}, Q_{15}, Q_{18}\}$  and sends  $M_2$  to the specific IoT device for session key establishment.

By executing Algorithm 3 and taking the input parameters  $\{T_j, Q_{10}, Q_{15}, Q_{18}, C_2, H_2, Q_3, Q_{33}, PK_k\}$ ,  $ITD_k$  verifies the freshness of the received message. Subsequently, it computes the private key using the PUF and Upon computing its own secret key,  $ITD_k$  calculates  $K_2$  and the secret share  $Q_{12}^*$ .  $ITD_k$  obtains the parameters  $(R_4 \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3))$  and computes  $Q_{18}^*$ . Subsequently,  $ITD_k$  checks the condition  $Q_{18}^* = Q_{18}$ . If this condition holds,  $ITD_k$  believes that  $M_2$  is a valid message and proceeds with the AKA phase. Otherwise, it halts the AKA phase.

**Algorithm 1** Generation of AKA Message  $M_1$ 


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**Input:**  $\{ID_i, PW_i, Bio_i, Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3\}$   
**Output:**  $\{T_i, Q_{10}, Q_{14}, Q_{15}, Q_{16}\}$

- 1: **procedure** Algo-1( $\{ID_i, PW_i, Bio_i, Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3\}$ )
- 2:  $(\sigma_i^*) \leftarrow Rep(Bio_i, H_3)$ ,
- 3:  $Q_4^* \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^* \parallel ID_i)$
- 4:  $Q_5^* \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^* \parallel ID_i \parallel PW_i)$
- 5:  $Q_6^* \leftarrow (Q_4^* \cdot PK_g)$
- 6:  $Q_8^* \leftarrow H(Q_6^* \parallel Q_5^*)$
- 7: **if**  $Q_8^* = Q_8$  **then**
- 8:      $Q_9^* \leftarrow H(Q_8^* \parallel PK_k \parallel PK_g \parallel Q_5^*)$
- 9:     **if**  $Q_9^* = Q_9$  **then**
- 10:         generates  $R_2, R_3, R_4$ , and  $T_i$
- 11:          $Q_{10} \leftarrow H(R_2 \parallel Q_4^*) \cdot P$
- 12:          $Q_{11} \leftarrow Q_{10} \cdot PK_g$
- 13:          $Q_{12} \leftarrow Q_{10} \cdot PK_k$
- 14:          $Q_{13} \leftarrow H(PK_k)$
- 15:          $ID_k \leftarrow (Q_{13}^a \oplus Q_{13}^b)$
- 16:          $Q_{14} \leftarrow (ID_k \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3)) \oplus H(Q_{11} \parallel T_i)$
- 17:          $Q_{15} \leftarrow (R_4 \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) \oplus H(Q_{12} \parallel T_i)$
- 18:          $Q_{16} \leftarrow H(R_3 \parallel ID_i \parallel Q_{10} \parallel Q_5^* \parallel Q_{15} \parallel Q_{14})$
- 19:     **else**
- 20:         Ends AKA phase
- 21:     **end if**
- 22: **else**
- 23:     Ends AKA phase
- 24: **end if**
- 25: **end procedure**

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$ITD_k$  selects  $R_5$  and  $T_k$ , computes  $Q_{19}$ , and derives the session key  $SK_k$ . This session key will be utilized for future communications in encrypted form. Additionally,  $ITD_k$  calculates  $Q_{20}$ , which serves as the authentication parameter for  $M_3$ . Finally,  $ITD_k$  constructs the message  $M_3$  with the parameters  $\{T_k, Q_{19}, Q_{20}\}$  and sends it to  $UD_i$  through a single channel of communication.

To complete the AKA phase,  $UD_i$  receives the message  $M_3$  and checks its timeliness. It then computes  $SID_k$  and derives  $H(R_5 \parallel K_2^* \parallel ID_g)$ . Additionally,  $UD_i$  calculates the session key  $SK_i$  to facilitate communication in an encrypted form. Finally,  $UD_i$  computes  $Q_{20}^*$  and verifies the condition  $Q_{20}^* = Q_{20}$  to ensure the integrity and authenticity of the message  $M_3$ . If this condition holds,  $UD_i$  considers the authentication successful and establishes the session key.

**E. PASSWORD CHANGE MECHANISM**

When designing an AKA framework, it is essential to incorporate mechanisms for password or biometric updates or changes. In the proposed framework, PSAF-IoT, a mechanism for password and biometric changes is provided, utilizing Algorithm 5.

**Algorithm 2** Generation of AKA Message  $M_2$ 


---

**Input:**  $\{C_1, H_1, R_1, PK_g, Q_7, SID_k, T_i, Q_{10}, Q_{14}, Q_{15}, Q_{16}\}$   
**Output:**  $\{T_j, Q_{10}, Q_{15}, Q_{18}\}$

- 1: **procedure** Algo-2( $\{C_1, H_1, R_1, PK_g, SID_k, T_i, Q_{10}, Q_{14}, Q_{15}, Q_{16}\}$ )
- 2:     **if**  $T_d \geq |T_r - T_i|$  **then**
- 3:          $RP_1 \leftarrow PUF(C_1)$
- 4:          $K_1 \leftarrow Gen(RP_1, H_1)$
- 5:          $Q_1 \leftarrow H(K_1 \parallel R_1)$
- 6:          $ID_g \leftarrow H(Q_1)$
- 7:          $Q_{17} \leftarrow Q_1 \cdot Q_{10}$
- 8:          $(ID_k \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3)) \leftarrow (Q_{14}) \oplus H(Q_{17} \parallel T_i)$
- 9:          $SID_i \leftarrow H(ID_i \parallel R_1)$
- 10:         **if**  $SID_i$  found in database of  $GW_j$  **then**
- 11:             retrieves  $Q_5$
- 12:              $Q_{16}^* \leftarrow H(R_3 \parallel ID_i \parallel Q_{10} \parallel Q_5 \parallel Q_{15} \parallel Q_{14})$
- 13:             **if**  $Q_{16}^* = Q_{16}$  **then**
- 14:                 message  $M_1$  is valid
- 15:                  $SID_k \leftarrow H(ID_k)$
- 16:                 **if**  $SID_k$  found in database of  $GW_j$  **then**
- 17:                     selects  $T_j$
- 18:                      $Q_{18} \leftarrow H(Q_{10} \parallel T_j \parallel SID_k \parallel ID_g \parallel Q_{15} \parallel T_i)$
- 19:             **else**
- 20:                 Ends AKA phase
- 21:             **end if**
- 22:         **else**
- 23:             Ends AKA phase
- 24:         **end if**
- 25:         **else**
- 26:             Ends AKA phase
- 27:         **end if**
- 28:         **else**
- 29:             Ends AKA phase
- 30:         **end if**
- 31: **end procedure**

---

**V. SECURITY ANALYSIS OF PSAF-IoT**

The security resilience of PSAF-IoT against various security vulnerabilities is assessed through both formal and informal security analyses.

**A. INFORMAL SECURITY ANALYSIS**

In this section, we validate the resilience of the proposed PSAF-IoT through informal, non-mathematical discussions.

## 1) PASSWORD GUESSING ATTACK

The proposed PSAF-IoT presents a robust defense against password-guessing attacks. Even if attackers manage to obtain credentials like  $\{Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3\}$  from  $UD_i$ , launching a successful password-guessing attack proves challenging. The attacker is required to accomplish the conditions  $Q_8^* = Q_8$  and  $Q_9^* = Q_9$ , which is a challenging

**Algorithm 3** Generation of AKA Message  $M_3$ 


---

**Input:**  $\{T_j, Q_{10}, Q_{15}, Q_{18}, C_2, H_2, Q_3, Q_{33}, PK_k\}$   
**Output:**  $\{T_k, Q_{19}, Q_{20}\}$

- 1: **procedure** Algo-3( $\{T_j, Q_{10}, Q_{15}, Q_{18}, C_2, H_2, Q_3\}$ )
- 2:   **if**  $T_d \geq |T_r - T_j|$  **then**
- 3:      $RP_2^* \leftarrow PUF(C_2)$
- 4:      $K_3^* \leftarrow Gen(RP_2^*, H_2)$
- 5:      $Q_2 \leftarrow H(PK_k)$
- 6:      $ID_k \leftarrow (Q_2^a \oplus Q_2^b)$
- 7:      $SID_k \leftarrow H(ID_k)$
- 8:      $K_2^* \leftarrow Q_3 \oplus H(K_3^* || H_2)$
- 9:      $ID_g \leftarrow Q_{33} \oplus H(H_2 || K_3^*)$
- 10:      $Q_{12}^* \leftarrow Q_{10} \cdot K_2^*$
- 11:      $(R_4 || (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) \leftarrow Q_{15} \oplus H(Q_{12}^* || T_i || ID_k)$
- 12:      $Q_{18}^* \leftarrow H(Q_{10} || T_j || SID_k || ID_g || Q_{15} || T_i)$
- 13:     **if**  $Q_{18}^* = Q_{18}$  **then**
- 14:       message  $M_2$  is valid
- 15:       selects  $R_5, T_k$
- 16:        $Q_{19} \leftarrow H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g) \oplus H(Q_{12}^* || (R_4 || (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k))$
- 17:        $SK_k \leftarrow H(R_4 || (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) || H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g)$
- 18:        $Q_{20} \leftarrow H(T_k || SK_k || H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g) || SID_k)$
- 19:     **else**
- 20:       Ends AKA phase
- 21:     **end if**
- 22:   **else**
- 23:     Ends AKA phase
- 24:   **end if**
- 25: **end procedure**

---

task without comprehending the user's secret credentials, including  $ID_i, PW_i, Bio_i,$  and  $\sigma_i$ . As acquiring access to both the biometric information and the key shows considerable hurdles for attackers, given the difficulty in guessing and replicating biometric keys. Therefore, PSAF-IoT mitigates the chance of password-guessing attacks.

## 2) REPLAY ATTACK

In the PSAF-IoT framework, the AKA phase involves the exchange of three messages:  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$ . Each message is timestamped with the latest timestamps:  $T_i, T_j,$  and  $T_k$ , respectively, to safeguard against replay attacks. To guarantee the freshness of these messages, conditions are set for  $T_d$  to be greater than or equal to the absolute differences between the received timestamp and each message's timestamp. Specifically, for  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$ , the conditions are  $T_d \geq |T_r - T_i|, T_d \geq |T_r - T_j|,$  and  $T_d \geq |T_r - T_k|,$  respectively. If these conditions are met, the receiving participant considers the message as fresh. Otherwise, if the conditions are not met, the messages  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$  are treated as delayed. This method thwarts replay attacks in the PSAF-IoT framework.

**Algorithm 4** Authentication Successfully Completed

---

**Input:**  $\{T_k, Q_{19}, Q_{20}\}$   
**Output:** {AKA Phase Completed and Session Key is Established}

- 1: **procedure** Algo-4( $\{T_k, Q_{19}, Q_{20}\}$ )
- 2:   **if**  $T_d \geq |T_r - T_k|$  **then**
- 3:      $SID_k \leftarrow H(ID_k)$
- 4:      $H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g) \leftarrow Q_{19} \oplus H(Q_{12}^* || (R_4 || (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k))$
- 5:      $SK_i \leftarrow H(R_4 || (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) || H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g)$
- 6:      $Q_{20}^* \leftarrow H(T_k || SK_k || H(R_5 || K_2^* || ID_g) || SID_k)$
- 7:     **if**  $Q_{20}^* = Q_{20}$  **then**
- 8:       message  $M_3$  is valid
- 9:       session key established and verified
- 10:       authentication successfully completed
- 11:     **else**
- 12:       Ends AKA phase
- 13:     **end if**
- 14:   **else**
- 15:     Ends AKA phase
- 16:   **end if**
- 17: **end procedure**

---

## 3) PRIVILEGED INSIDER ATTACK

The susceptibility to a privileged insider attack materializes when  $GW_j$  stores permanent secret keys in plaintext within its database. In contrast, PSAF-IoT assumes a different method by abstaining from keeping such keys in the  $GW_j$  database. Instead, the secret key  $K_1$  is generated through the PUF function, with only the challenge parameter  $C_1$  maintained in the database. Additionally, the secret parameter  $Q_1$  is derived using the secret key  $K_1$  and  $R_1$ . While  $R_1$  is stored in plaintext, the absence of plaintext for the permanent secret key  $K_1$  complicates attackers' efforts to carry out any attacks, even if they gain access to parameters like  $\{C_1, H_1, R_1, PK_g, SID_k\}$ . The method adopted by PSAF-IoT effectively mitigates the risk of privileged insider attacks.

## 4) MITM ATTACK

To carry out a MITM attack in PSAF-IoT, the attacker needs to intercept all exchanged messages, especially  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$ , during the AKA phase. Following the DY model, which allows intercepted messages to be captured and altered, PSAF-IoT involves the exchange of three messages:  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$ . For the attacker to modify  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$ , they need access to specific secret parameters shared exclusively between  $UD_i, GW_j,$  and  $ITD_k$ . These parameters are  $\{R_3, R_4, R_5, Q_{11}, ID_i\}, \{ID_g, ID_i\},$  and  $\{R_5, SID_k, ID_i, Q_{12}\},$  respectively. Without these credentials, the attacker cannot alter the intercepted message. In PSAF-IoT, the integrity and authenticity of  $M_1, M_2,$  and  $M_3$  are verified using the conditions  $Q_{20}^* = Q_{20}, Q_{18}^* = Q_{18},$  and  $Q_{16}^* = Q_{16}$  at  $UD_i,$

**Algorithm 5** Password Change Mechanism

---

**Input:**  $\{ID_i, PW_i^o, Bio_i^o, Q_8^o, Q_9^o, PK_k, PK_g, H_3^o, Gen(\cdot), Rep(\cdot)\}$

**Output:**  $\{Q_8^n, Q_9^n, PK_k, PK_g, H_3^n\}$

- 1: **procedure** Algo-p( $\{ID_i, PW_i^o, Bio_i^o, Q_8^o, Q_9^o, PK_k, PK_g, H_3^o, PW_i^n, Bio_i^n\}$ )
- 2:    $(\sigma_i^o) \leftarrow Rep(Bio_i^o, H_3^o)$ ,
- 3:    $Q_4^o \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^o \parallel ID_i)$
- 4:    $Q_5^o \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^o \parallel ID_i \parallel PW_i^o)$
- 5:    $Q_6^o \leftarrow (Q_4^o \cdot PK_g)$
- 6:    $Q_8^o \leftarrow H(Q_6^o \parallel Q_5^o)$
- 7:   **if**  $Q_8^o = Q_8$  **then**
- 8:      $Q_9^o \leftarrow H(Q_8^o \parallel PK_k \parallel PK_g \parallel Q_5^o)$
- 9:     **if**  $Q_9^o = Q_9$  **then**
- 10:      enter  $PW_i^n, Bio_i^n$
- 11:       $(\sigma_i^n, H_3^n) \leftarrow Gen(Bio_i^n)$ ,
- 12:       $Q_4^n \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^n \parallel ID_i)$
- 13:       $Q_5^n \leftarrow H(\sigma_i^n \parallel ID_i \parallel PW_i^o)$
- 14:       $Q_6^n \leftarrow (Q_4^n \cdot PK_g)$
- 15:       $Q_8^n \leftarrow H(Q_6^n \parallel Q_5^n)$
- 16:       $Q_9^n \leftarrow H(Q_8^n \parallel PK_k \parallel PK_g \parallel Q_5^n)$
- 17:     **else**
- 18:       Ends password change mechanism
- 19:     **end if**
- 20:   **else**
- 21:     Ends password change mechanism
- 22:   **end if**
- 23: **end procedure**

---

$ITD_k$ , and  $GW_j$ , respectively. If any of these conditions are not met, the corresponding network entity will reject the message. This mechanism prevents modified messages from being accepted by the receiving entity, making PSAF-IoT resistant to MITM attacks.

## 5) DoS ATTACKS

The PSAF-IoT protects against DoS attacks.  $UD_i$  generates the AKA message  $M_1$  for  $GW_j$  only after validating the conditions  $Q_8^* = Q_8$  and  $Q_9^* = Q_9$ . If these conditions are met,  $UD_i$  generates  $M_1$ . Otherwise,  $UD_i$  refrains from sending AKA messages to  $GW_j$ . This approach ensures that  $UD_i$  cannot flood  $GW_j$  with excessive AKA messages, thereby preventing potential DoS attacks in the proposed PSAF-IoT system.

## 6) TEMPORARY SECRET COMPROMISED ATTACK

The session key in PSAF-IoT protocol is implied as  $SK_k (= SK_i) = H(R_4 \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) \parallel H(R_5 \parallel K_2^* \parallel ID_g)$ . This key combines various parameters, both direct and indirect, encompassing both permanent and temporary values. To compromise the security of the session key established during the AKA phase in PSAF-IoT, an attacker would need knowledge of both the permanent and temporary parameters. Thus, having knowledge of only one type of

parameter, either permanent or temporary, is insufficient for an adversary to compromise the session key's security.

## 7) IMPERSONATION ATTACK

There are two potential types of impersonation attacks that could target the PSAF-IoT framework. In one scenario, the attacker attempts to impersonate a legitimate user in the IoT environment by crafting a message,  $M_1$ . However, generating  $M_1$  requires knowledge of specific parameters like  $\{R_3, R_4, R_5, Q_{11}, ID_i\}$ . Without access to these credentials, constructing a valid  $M_1$  becomes challenging for the attacker. Additionally, the authenticity of  $M_1$  is verified at  $GW_j$  through conditions like  $Q_{16}^* = Q_{16}$ . Likewise, generating  $M_2$  is challenging without knowing the parameters used in generating  $M_1$  and  $\{ID_g, ID_i\}$ . The authenticity of  $M_2$  is confirmed at  $ITD_k$  using conditions such as  $Q_{18}^* = Q_{18}$ . Similarly, creating  $M_3$  without knowledge of  $\{R_5, SID_k, ID_i, Q_{12}\}$  is also difficult. The authenticity of  $M_3$  is validated at  $UD_i$  through conditions like  $Q_{20}^* = Q_{20}$ . Therefore, meeting these conditions at the  $UD_i$ ,  $GW_j$ , and  $ITD_k$  ends is challenging without permanent and temporary credentials. As a result, the proposed PSAF-IoT protocol offers robust protection against impersonation attacks.

**B. ROM-BASED SECURITY VALIDATION**

Through ROM, PSAF-IoT is thoroughly examined, and  $\mathcal{A}$  is given permission to construct a variety of queries that allow for the execution of legitimate attacks. Various component of the ROM model are described as follows.

## 1) PARTICIPANTS

Within the PSAF-IoT framework, three key entities/participants are involved:  $UD_i$ ,  $GW_j$ , and  $ITD_k$ . The instances  $I_1, I_2,$  and  $I_3$  representing  $UD_i, GW_j,$  and  $ITD_k$  are denoted as  $\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}, \pi_{GW_j}^{I_2},$  and  $\pi_{ITD_k}^{I_3}$ , respectively, functioning as oracles.

## 2) PARTNERSHIP

If instances  $\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}$  and  $\pi_{GW_j}^{I_2}$  have a common session key, they establish a partnership at the acceptance state.

## 3) FRESHNESS

By  $\mathcal{A}$ , the SK generated during the AKA phase between  $\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}$  and  $\pi_{GW_j}^{I_2}$  cannot be revealed or made public.

Table 2 contains a list of these queries. We evaluate every potential query in order to formally corroborate the security of PSAF-IoT. The subsequent variety of queries are used to simulate various attack scenarios against PSAF-IoT.

*Theorem 1: Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an adversary bounded by polynomial time (plt), challenging the security of PSAF-IoT. We denote hash queries as  $H^2q$ , send queries as  $Q_{se}$ , and PUF queries as  $H_{puf}^2$ . The password dictionary space is represented by PSD, and  $|PUF|$  indicates the length of the PUF query.  $|HSL|$  indicates the length of the PUF query. The length of the biometric key is denoted by  $2^{le}$ . Additionally,  $Adv^{ECDLP}(\mathcal{A}(plt))$*



TABLE 2. ROM based queries.

Query	Explanation of the Query
$Execute(\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}, \pi_{GW_j}^{I_2}, \pi_{TD_K}^{I_2})$	This query represents an eavesdropping attack, allowing the interception of messages between two honest participants.
$Reveal(\pi^{I_1})$	This query exposes the current session key generated by $\mathcal{A}$ and its partner to an adversary.
$Send(\pi^{I_1}, msg)$	In this query, $\mathcal{A}$ sends a message, $msg$ , to an instance and receives a response message, modeling an active attack.
$CorruptUD(\pi^{I_1})$	This query simulates a lost or stolen $UD_i$ attack, where $\mathcal{A}$ can extract all information stored in $UD_i$ after executing this query.
$Test(\pi^{I_1})$	Under this query, an impartial coin, "b", is flipped by $\mathcal{A}$ . Based on the result, $\mathcal{A}$ establishes the session key between itself and another entity. The coin flip results in either 0 or 1. If $b = 1$ , $\mathcal{A}$ returns the session key, SK; if $b = 0$ , $\mathcal{A}$ returns a random binary string; otherwise, it returns a null value.

signifies the advantage of  $\mathcal{A}$  in compromising and solving the ECDLP in  $plt$ . The estimation of  $\mathcal{A}$ 's advantage in compromising the security of the secret key (SK) can be expressed as follows.

$$Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) \leq \frac{H_q^2}{|HSL|} + \frac{H_{puf}^2}{|PUF|} + \frac{S_q}{2^{le-1} \cdot |PSD|} + 2 \cdot Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{ECDLP}(plt). \quad (1)$$

*Proof:* We prove Theorem 1 by examining the trailing five games ( $Game_k \mid k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ ) [43]. The adversary  $\mathcal{A}$ 's advantage in compromising the security of the secret session key is represented as  $Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) = |2 \cdot Adv^{Game} - 1|$ . Here,  $Adv^{Game}$  denotes  $\mathcal{A}$ 's probability of winning by accurately predicting the bit "b" in each  $Game_k$ .

$Game_0$  : In this scenario,  $\mathcal{A}$  executes a real attack on PSAF-IoT. By the definition of success, we have achieved the desired outcome.

$$Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) = |2 \cdot Adv^{Game_0} - 1|. \quad (2)$$

$Game_1$  : the security of the cryptographic scheme against eavesdropping attacks is robust. In this scenario,  $\mathcal{A}$  attempts to intercept  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $M_3$  using the query  $Execute(\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}, \pi_{GW_j}^{I_2}, \pi_{TD_K}^{I_2})$  and derive the session key  $SK_k (= SK_i) = H(R_4 \parallel (ID_i \oplus R_3) \oplus ID_k) \parallel H(R_5 \parallel K_2^* \parallel ID_g)$  using intercepted  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $M_3$ . However, due to the combination of permanent and temporary parameters in the session key generation process,  $\mathcal{A}$  needs both these parameters to successfully compute a valid session key. In the concluding phase of  $Game_1$ ,  $\mathcal{A}$  attempts to reveal the presumed secret key through the operation  $Reveal(\pi^{I_1})$  and evaluates its correctness with  $Test(\pi^{I_1})$  by comparing it to a random bit. However, lacking both the permanent and temporary parameters,  $\mathcal{A}$  is incapable of producing a legitimate session key. As a result, the likelihood of  $\mathcal{A}$  succeeding in this endeavor is minimal. Therefore, we can conclude that the cryptographic scheme provides strong security against eavesdropping attacks, as an adversary cannot derive the session key without having both the permanent and temporary parameters. This leads to  $Game_0$  and  $Game_1$  becoming indistinguishable. From this, we can deduce that.

$$Adv^{Game_1} = Adv^{Game_0} \quad (3)$$

$Game_2$  : In this scenario,  $\mathcal{A}$  initiates an active attack using hash (HSL) queries. Within the context of PSAF-IoT, the session key is generated using the SHA algorithm on the

sides of both  $UD_i$ .  $\mathcal{A}$  tries to identify a collision through HSL queries with the goal of compromising the security of the session key, SK. Additionally, all messages exchanged during the AKA phase are safeguarded by the hash function. Therefore, to compromise the security of the proposed PSAF-IoT, an attacker would attempt to find a collision in the hash function's output. However, the likelihood of successfully identifying a collision is extremely low. Additionally,  $\mathcal{A}$  utilizes PUF queries in this attack. To find the collision in the PUF is highly challenging, if not impossible. As a result,  $\mathcal{A}$ 's advantage does not increase in  $Game_2$ . Consequently, we conclude that.

$$Adv^{Game_2} - Adv^{Game_1} \leq \frac{H_q^2}{2|HSL|} + \frac{H_{puf}^2}{2|PUF|}. \quad (4)$$

$Game_3$  : During the game,  $\mathcal{A}$  executed the  $CorruptUD(\pi^{I_1})$  query to start an active attack. After  $UD_i$  is successfully taken over, the attacker will be able to obtain the set of credentials  $\{Q_8, Q_9, PK_k, PK_g, H_3, Gen(\cdot), Rep(\cdot)\}$  that are kept in  $UD_i$ 's memory.  $\mathcal{A}$  seeks to determine the password, biometric key, and true identity of the user. From the obtained parameter through the power analysis, it is hard for the attacker to get the any sensitive information. The likelihood of accurately estimating the biometric key is  $\frac{1}{2^{le}}$ , which is almost negligible. In addition, the system limits the quantity of failed password attempts that may be made. In view of these facts, the following deductions can be made:

$$Adv^{Game_3} - Adv^{Game_2} \leq \frac{Q_{se}}{2^{le} \cdot |PSD|}. \quad (5)$$

$Game_4$  : In this gaming scenario,  $\mathcal{A}$  executes  $Execute(\pi_{UD_i}^{I_1}, \pi_{GW_j}^{I_2}, \pi_{TD_K}^{I_2})$  to capture  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $M_3$ . After acquiring all messages,  $\mathcal{A}$  endeavors to disclose the undercover data that was encrypted and communicated among all entities in the IoT network. It's worth mentioning that both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  contain the parameter  $Q_{10}$ , which is the public key of  $UD_i$ . To access the sensitive credentials utilized in generating the session key, compromising the security of ECC is essential. To achieve this,  $\mathcal{A}$  needs to solve the ECDLP in polynomial time. Definitions 1 clarify that these objectives are achievable.

$$Adv^{Game_4} - Adv^{Game_3} \leq Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{ECDLP}(plt). \quad (6)$$

Upon concluding all games ( $Game_k \mid k \in [0, 3]$ ),  $\mathcal{A}$  does not accumulate a substantial advantage in accurately forecasting the bit "b". Therefore, we extrapolate that

$$Adv^{Game_4} = 1/2 \quad (7)$$

From (2) and (3), we get

$$Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) = | 2 \cdot Adv^{Game_0} - \frac{1}{2} |. \quad (8)$$

From (8), we get

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) = | Adv^{Game_0} - Adv^{Game_4} |. \quad (9)$$

By using (7) and (9), we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) = | Adv^{Game_1} - Adv^{Game_4} | \quad (10)$$

Upon considering the triangular inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & | Adv^{Game_1} - Adv^{Game_4} | \\ & \leq | Adv^{Game_1} - Adv^{Game_2} | + | Adv^{Game_2} - Adv^{Game_4} | \\ & \leq | Adv^{Game_1} - Adv^{Game_2} | + | Adv^{Game_2} - Adv^{Game_3} | \\ & \quad + | Adv^{Game_3} - Adv^{Game_4} |. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

By using (4), (6), and (11), we get

$$Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{PSAF-IoT}(plt) \leq \frac{H_q^2}{|Hh|} + \frac{H_{puf}^2}{|PUF|} + \frac{Q_{se}}{2^{le-1} \cdot |PSD|} + 2 \cdot Adv_{\mathcal{A}}^{ECDLP}(plt). \quad (12)$$

□

### C. SECURITY VALIDATION USING SCYTHER

The Scyther tool [44], [45] functions as an automated and highly efficacious formal verification tool particularly developed to assess protocol security against identity attacks. Functioning on the basis of the DY model [46], it investigates protocol security through the utilization of security claims. Additionally, Scyther ascertains all security claim categories within the protocol, visually depicting any breaches per claim. Utilizing the security protocol description language (SPDL), Scyther expresses the protocol model under scrutiny. Furthermore, it presents a user-friendly graphical interface. Once security claims, roles, and protocols are specified, security validation commences with the execution of authentication commands. This approach assumes a black-box cryptographic model. Protocols are modeled based on role definition, permitting Scyther to investigate both correctness and authenticity. Therefore, we modeled the proposed PSFA-IoT according to SPDL to corroborate protocol claims.

In implementing PSFA-IoT, SPDL serves as the framework. This SPDL script defines the roles of three pivotal entities:  $UD_i$  (user),  $GW_j$  (Gateway node), and  $ITD_k$  (IoT device). Each role within the SPDL script is associated with specific claims. Testing with Scyther confirms that there have been no identified attacks targeting the session key disclosure, aliveness, non-injective agreement, weak agreement, and non-synchronization facets of the proposed PSFA-Io. Figure 2 shows the PSFA-IoT is secure as no attack is found against the PSFA-IoT.

Claim	Status	Comments
PSAF_IoT	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ID1	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ID2	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ID3	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ID4	Ok	Verified
GW	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_GW1	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_GW2	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_GW3	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_GW4	Ok	Verified
ITD	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ITD1	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ITD2	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ITD3	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ITD4	Ok	Verified
PSAF_IoT_ITD5	Ok	Verified

FIGURE 2. Security analysis using the Scyther tool.

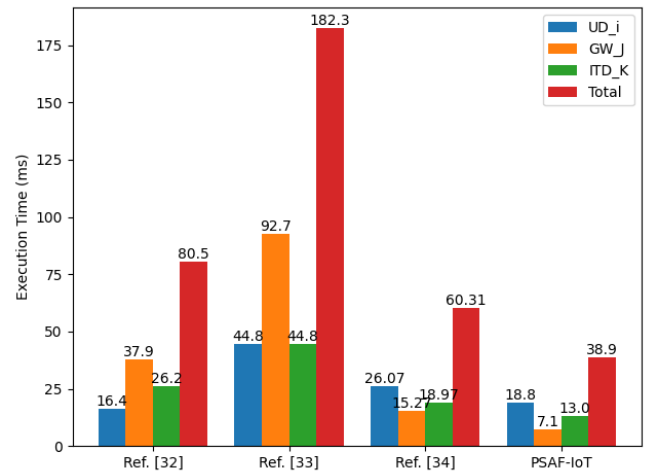


FIGURE 3. Execution time to accomplish the AKA phase.

## VI. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS

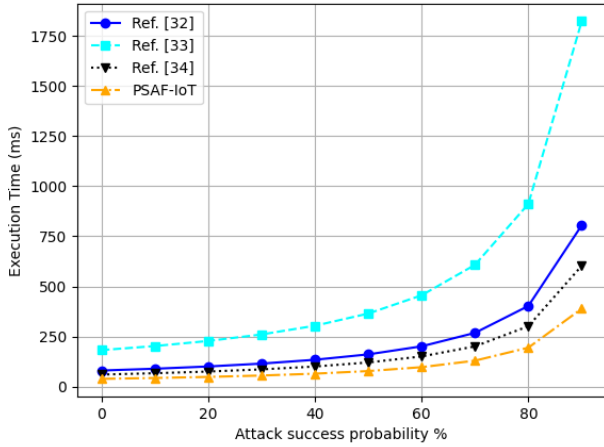
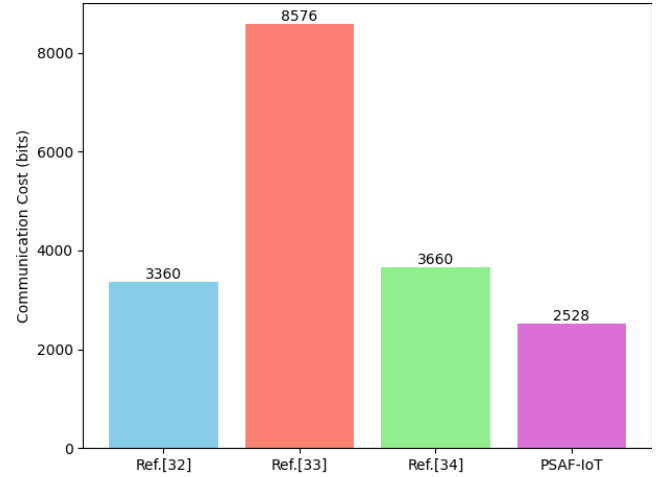
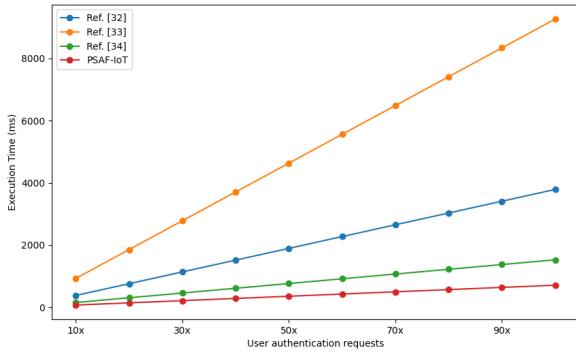
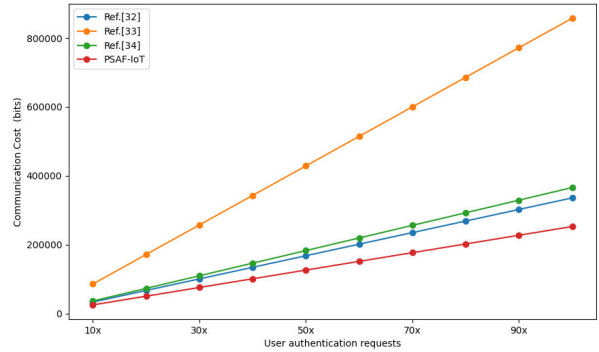
We assess the efficiency of PSFA-IoT: in comparison with [32], [33], and [34], focusing on their security features, communication costs, and execution time. We employ a Raspberry Pi 3 micro-controller as  $GW_j$  and ( $UD_i$ ) with the specification, CPU: quad-core 1.2 GHz, 1GB RAM, and Ubuntu OS. Computational time for various cryptographic operations is represented as follows:  $T_{hs}$  for hash function,  $T_{epm}$  for ECC multiplication,  $T_{epa}$  for ECC addition,  $T_{bp}$  for Bi-linear pairing,  $T_{fe}$  for fuzzy extractor, and  $T_{pf}$  for PUF. We conduct cryptographic operations using ‘‘Pycrypto’’. Each cryptographic primitive experiment is repeated 300 times. Time required by  $T_{hs} \approx 0.6$  ms,  $T_{epm} \approx 2.9$  ms,  $T_{epa} \approx 0.17$  ms,  $T_{bp} \approx 7.6$  ms,  $T_{fe} \approx 2.9$  ms and  $T_{pf} \approx 0.00054$  ms.

### A. EVALUATION OF EXECUTION TIME

In this section, we evaluate the execution time of the proposed PSFA-IoT during the AKA phase. It turns out that PSFA-IoT

**TABLE 3.** AKA phase execution time comparison.

Framework	User $UD_i$	Gateway $GW_j$	IoT device $ITD_k$	Aggregated Execution Time
Ref. [32]	$8T_{hs} + 4T_{epm} \approx 16.4$ ms	$10T_{hs} + 11T_{epm} \approx 37.9$ ms	$5T_{hs} + 8T_{epm} \approx 26.2$ ms	$23T_{hs} + 23T_{epm} \approx 80.5$ ms
Ref. [33]	$7T_{hs} + 14T_{epm} \approx 44.8$ ms	$12T_{hs} + 19T_{epm} + 4T_{bp} \approx 92.6$ ms	$7T_{hs} + 14T_{epm} \approx 44.8$ ms	$26T_{hs} + 47T_{epm} + 4T_{bp} \approx 182.3$ ms
Ref. [34]	$19T_h + 4T_{epm} + T_{epa} + T_{fe} \approx 26.0$ ms	$T_h + 5T_{epm} + T_{epa} \approx 15.27$ ms	$12T_h + 4T_{epm} + T_{epa} \approx 18.97$ ms	$32T_h + 13T_{epm} + 3T_{epa} + T_{fe} \approx 60.31$ ms
PSAF-IoT	$12T_{hs} + 3T_{epm} + T_{fe} \approx 18.79$ ms	$7T_{hs} + T_{fe} + T_{pf} \approx 7.1$ ms	$12T_{hs} + T_{fe} + 1T_{epm} + T_{pf} \approx 13.0$ ms	$31T_{hs} + 4T_{epm} + 3T_{fe} + 2T_{pf} \approx 38.9$ ms

**FIGURE 4.** Execution time of AKA phase of PSAF-IoT under jamming and eavesdropping attack.**FIGURE 6.** Communication cost require to complete the AKA phase.**FIGURE 5.** Execution time required at  $GW_j$  with increasing user AKA requests.**FIGURE 7.** Communication with increasing the number of AKA requests.

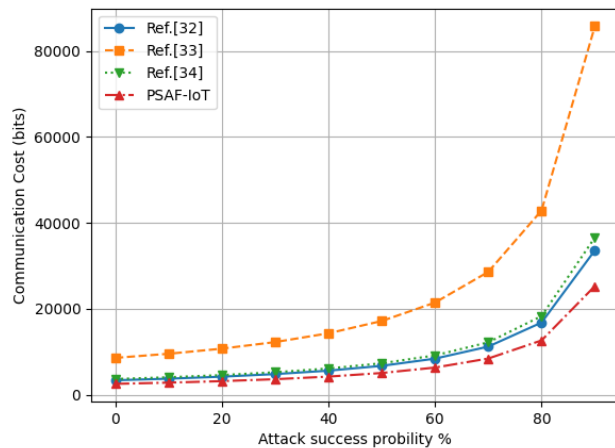
requires an execution time of 23 ms to complete the AKA phase, which is less than that of related AKA frameworks. This comparison is provided in Table 3 and Figure 3. Additionally, it is imperative to assess the execution time requirement of  $GW_j$  when multiple users send concurrent AKA requests to  $GW_j$ , as  $GW_j$  is responsible for validating users in the IoT environment. This comparison is presented in Figure 5. The proposed PSAF-IoT requires 51.68%, 78.66%, and 35.5% lower execution time than [32], [33], and [34], respectively. When the adversary interrupts the execution of PSAF-IoT or drops the messages communicated to complete the AKA phase, the proposed PSAF-IoT demonstrates lower execution time under jamming and eavesdropping attacks compared to related security schemes. This is depicted in Figure 4.

## B. EVALUATION OF COMMUNICATION COST

In this section, we investigate the communication cost associated with the proposed PSAF-IoT during the AKA phase. It is found that PSAF-IoT requires a communication cost of 2528 bits to conduct the AKA phase, which is lower than that of comparable AKA frameworks. This comparison is detailed in Table 4 and Figure 6. Furthermore, it is crucial to evaluate the bandwidth requirements, when multiple users commence simultaneous AKA requests to different  $ITD_k$  deployed in an IoT environment. This assessment is illustrated in Figure 7. The proposed PSAF-IoT requires 24.76%, 70.52%, and 30.93% lower communication cost than [32], [33], and [34], respectively. In scenarios where an adversary disrupts the execution of PSAF-IoT or intercepts messages intended for conducting the AKA phase, the proposed PSAF-IoT exhibits reduced communication costs

**TABLE 4. AKA phase communication cost comparison.**

Framework	No. Messages Exchange	Total Communication Cost(bits)
Ref. [32]	4	3360
Ref. [33]	8	8576
Ref. [34]	3	3660
PSAF-IoT	3	2528

**FIGURE 8. Communication cost under the jamming and eavesdropping attacks.**

under jamming and eavesdropping attacks compared to other security schemes. This is shown in Figure 8.

## VII. CONCLUSION

Ensuring information security within the IoT infrastructure poses significant challenges. In response to this issue, we introduce a new AKA framework named PSFA-IoT. This framework enables users to establish secure communication channels with specific devices deployed in the IoT environment. Leveraging PUF, PSFA-IoT achieves physical security and ensures resistance against privileged insider and node capture. The security of the secure channel establishment process is validated through formal methods such as the random oracle model and Scyther-based implementation. Comparative analysis revealed that PSFA-IoT demonstrates efficiency in terms of execution time, and communication costs, requiring [35.5% to 78.66%] lower execution time, and [24.76% to 70.52%] lower communication costs compared to alternatives. These findings underscore the significance of adopting PSFA-IoT to safeguard user communication in increasingly interconnected IoT-enabled environments.

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