

Cryptanalysis of “Cloud Centric Authentication for Wearable Healthcare Monitoring System”

Chandra Sekhar Vorugunti
 PhD Third Year
 Chittoor - 517520, A.P
 sekhar.daiict@gmail.com

Abstract:

The privacy and security issues of information message dissemination have been well researched in typical wearable sensores. However, cloud computing paradigm is merely utilized for secure information message dissemination over wearable sensors. Sharing encrypted data with different users via public cloud storage is an important functionality. Therefore, many researchers proposed new cloud based user authentication scheme for secure authentication of medical data. Newly A.K.Das et al proposed a new user authentication scheme in which a legal user registered at the BRC will be able to mutually authenticate with an accessible wearable sensor node with the help of the CoTC. Though A.K.Das et al scheme counterattacks key cryptographic attacks, on subsequent in-depth analysis, we validate that their scheme has security downsides such as failure to counterattack ‘privileged insider attack’, which inturn leads to password guessing attack, identity guessing attack, usner impersonation attack, session specific random number leakage attack etc.

Keywords- —Wearable sensors, healthcare, bigdata, cloud computing, authentication, security.

TABLE 1
 Notations along with their descriptions

Symbol	Description
BRC	Bigdata registration center
CoT C	Cloud of Things centric
$U_i; SN_j$	User and wearable sensor, respectively
SC_i	Smart card of U_i
$ID_i; ID_{SN_j}$	Unique identities of U_i and SN_j , respectively
PW_i	Password of U_i
K	Long-term secret key of the BRC
MK_{SN_j}	Master key of SN_j
$p; q$	Large distinct secret prime numbers
n	Modulus, $n = p \cdot q$
SK_{CCSN_j}	Secret key between CoT C and SN_j
$SK_{U_i SN}$	Secret key between U_i and all wearable Sensors
SK_{CCU_i}	Secret key between CoT C and U_i
$h()$	Cryptographic collision-resistant one way hash function
SK	Session key among entities U_i & SN_j
$i; R_i; a; R_2; R_3$	Random numbers/nonces
T	Current timestamps
$TC_i; TC_{j1}; TC_{j2}$	Maximum transmission delay
RTS _i	Temporal credentials
$i = j$	Registration timestamp of U_i
n_s	Checks if the expression i matches with expression j
	Number of wearable sensor devices deployed initially

n_u Number of users
 k Concatenation and bitwise XOR operations, respectively
 A An adversary

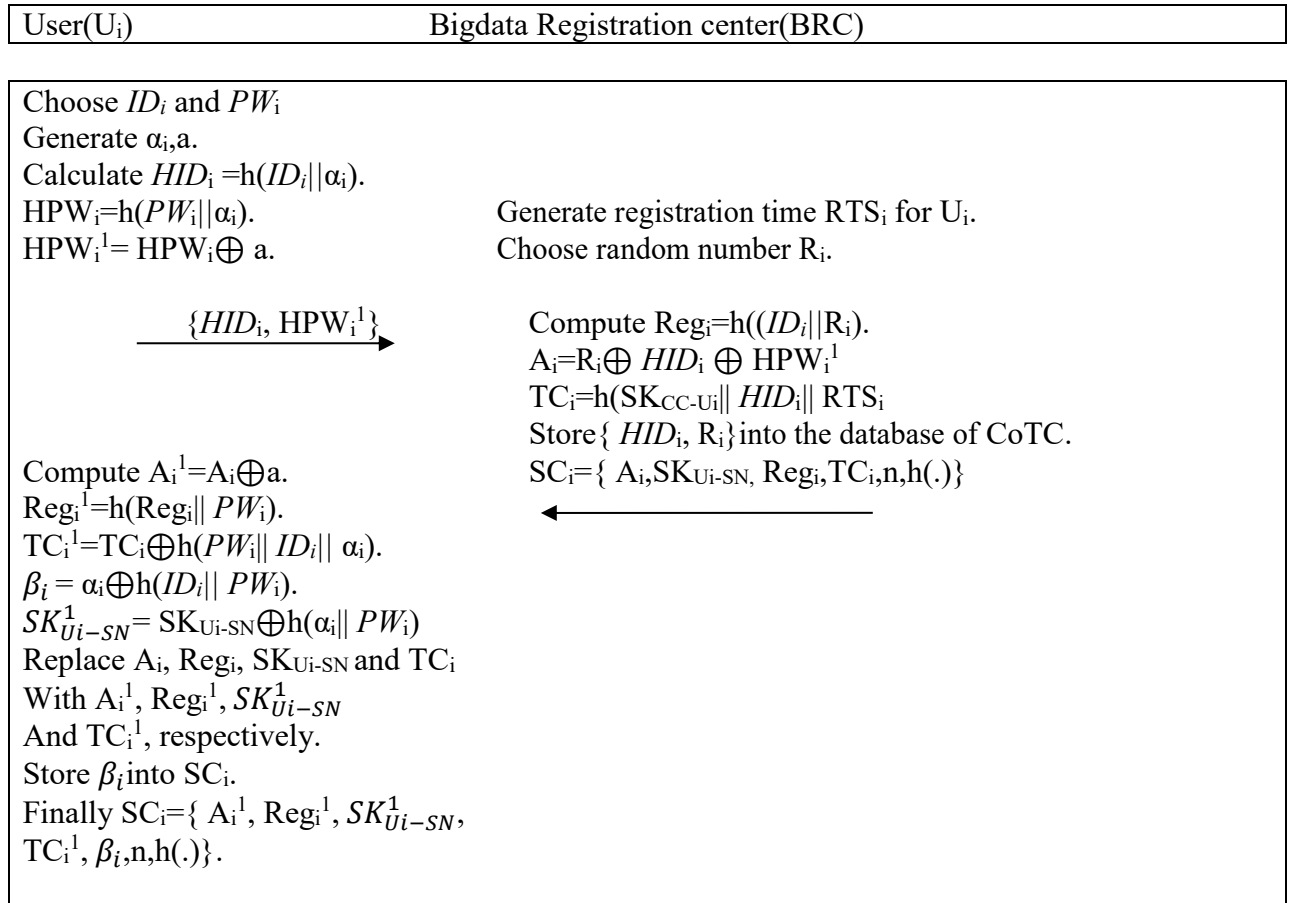


Fig.3. Summary of user registration phase

User(U_i) $SC_i = \{A_i^1, Reg_i^1, SK_{U_i-SN}^1, TC_i^1, \beta_i, n, h(\cdot)\}$.	Cloud of Things centric(CoTC) $(TC_{j1}, (HID_i, R_i), p, q, h(\cdot))$	Wearable Sensor node(SN_j) $((ID_{SN_j}, TC_{j1}), \{(HID_i^*, TC_{j2}) i=1, 2, \dots, n_u\}, h(\cdot))$
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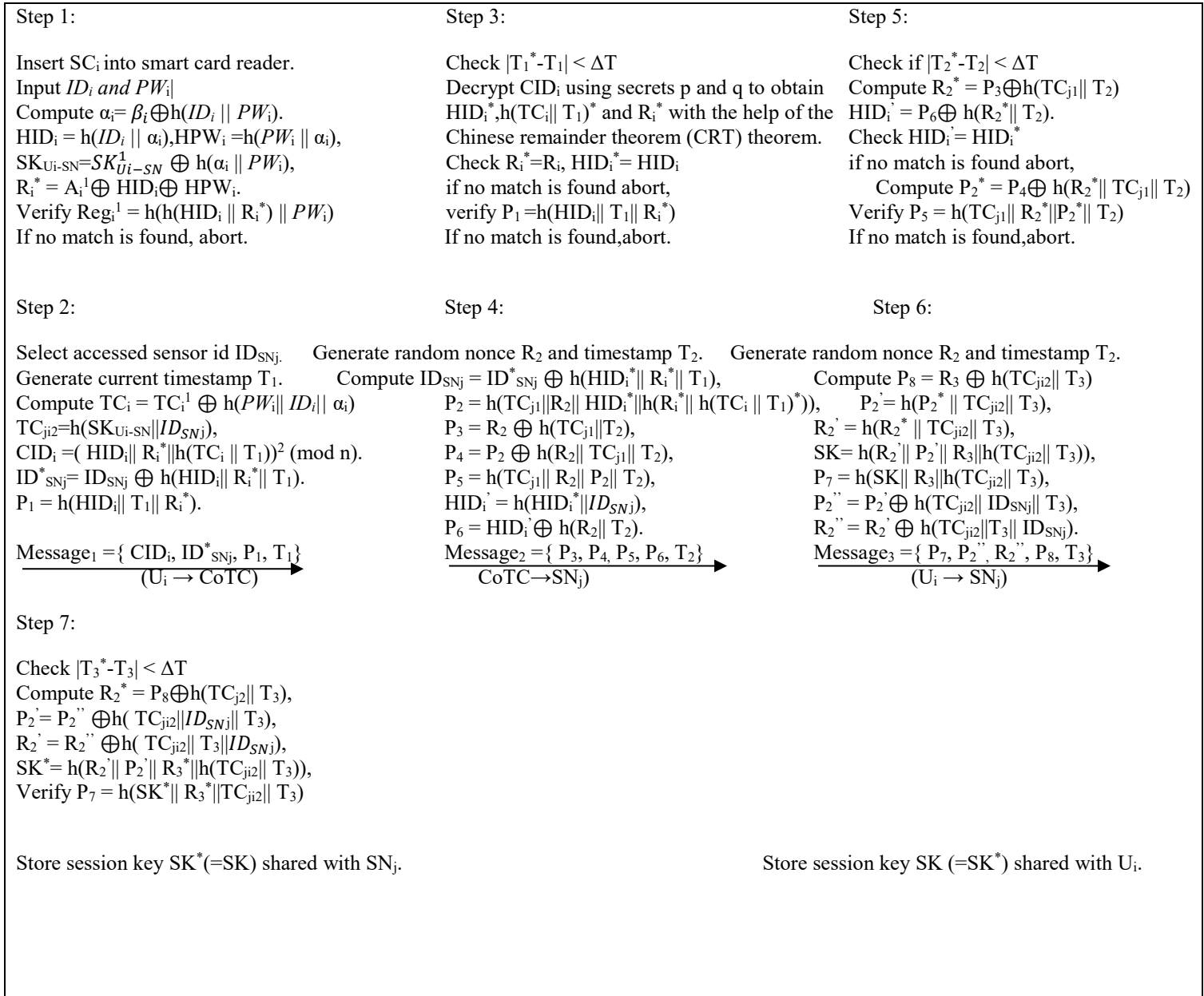


Fig.4. Summary of login and authentication phases

User(U_i)	Bigdata Registration center(BRC)
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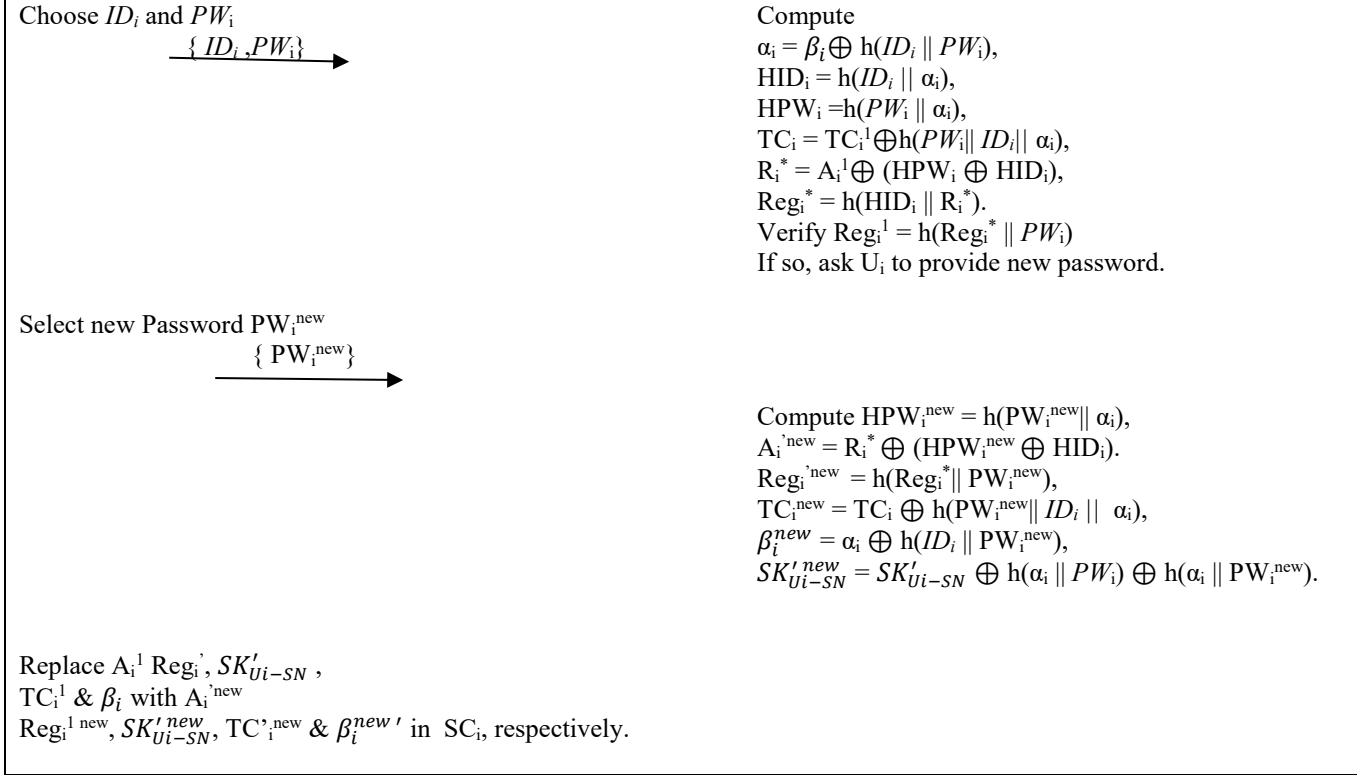


Fig.5. Summary of password change/update phase



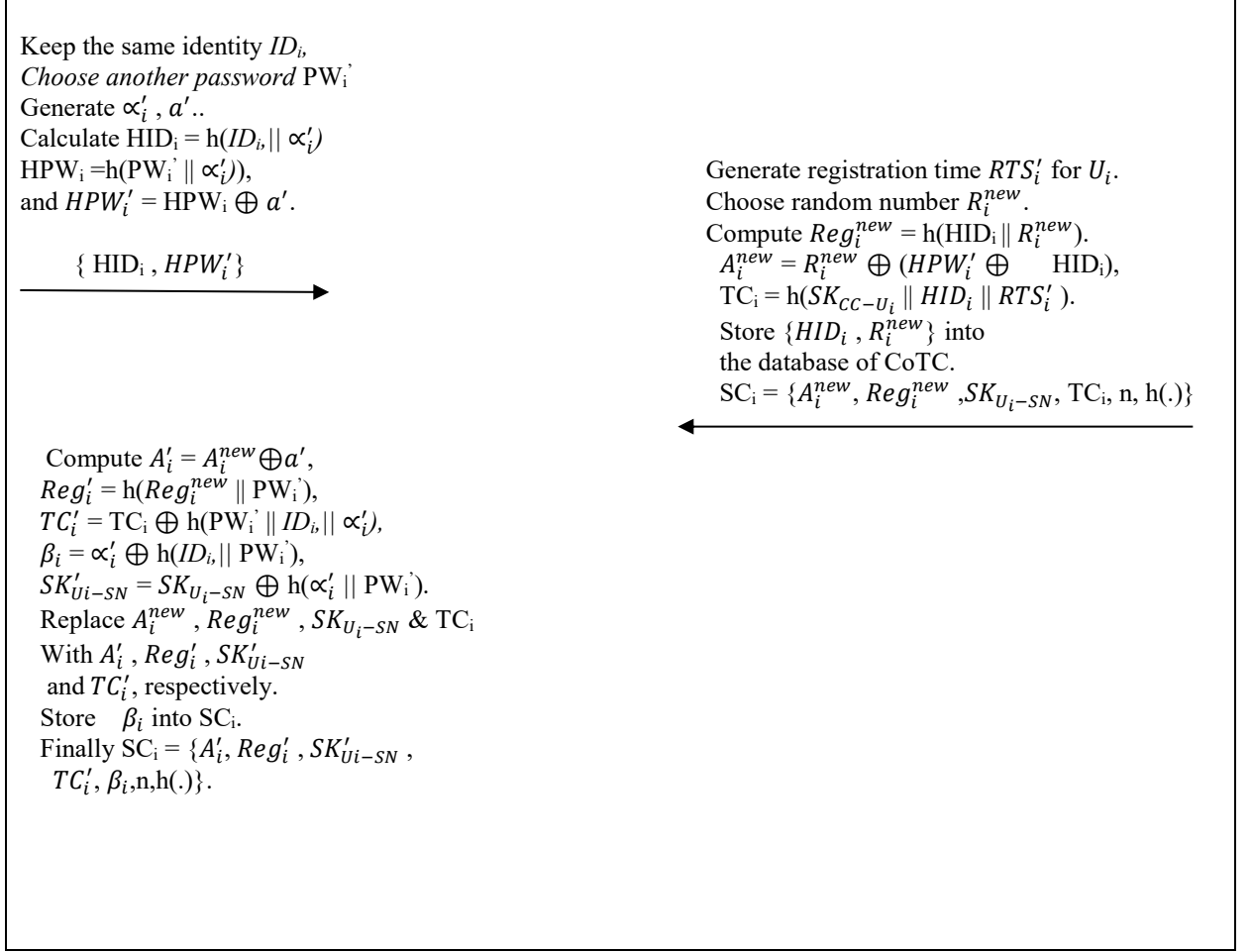


Fig. 6. Summary of smartcard revocation phase

I. CRYPTANALYSIS OF A.K DAS ET AL'S SCHEME

In this segment, we demonstrate that A.K Das et al.'s authentication system is susceptible to several key cryptographic vulnerabilities, mainly privileged insider attack. We explained in following subdivisions.

In this segment, we cryptanalyze A.K.Das et al.'s system [4] and prove that A.K.Das et al system is susceptible to security attacks. According to the threat model discussed above and depicted in [1,2,3,4], an attacker 'E' can intercept, eavesdrop and alter any message transmitted in the public communication channel. As discussed in [1,2,3,4], the attacker by carrying out power consumption analysis, can excerpt all the parameters deposited in the smart card [1,2]. Built on these two well accepted assumptions, the A.K.Das et al system is vulnerable to subsequent cryptographic outbreaks.

1. Privileged Insider Attack

A.K. Das et al in their prior work [2,3] cryptanalyzed few authentication schemes like Jiang et al [1] by adopting privileged insider attack. In this attack, we assume that an insider of the Gate Way Node (GWN) / Bigdata Registration center (BRC) is having access to registration information sent by the legal user U_i , inside database (any data stored in BRC data base) and the lost/stolen smart card of the legal user U_i .

i.e The insider being an attacker tries to get the information from legal user U_i and tries to perform various cryptographic attacks as described below:

Step 1 : The insider 'I' as an attacker is having access to : $\{HID_i, R_i\}$ (U_i specific data stored in database of CoTC. U_i submits $\{HID_i, HPW_i^*\}$. Finally the smart card contents $SC_i = \{A_i^1, Reg_i^1, SK_{U_i-SN}^1, TC_i^1, \beta_i, n, h(\cdot)\}$.

Step 2:

2.a) from $\{HID_i, R_i\}$ computes $Reg_i = h(HID_i || R_i)$.

2.b) from the S.C $Reg_i^1 = h(Reg_i || PW_i)$, from above computed Reg_i , perform the password guessing attack on $Reg_i^1 = h(Reg_i || PW_i)$, as only unknown parameter in Reg_i^1 is PW_i .

2.b.1) Pick a guessed password PW_i^* , and compute $Reg_i^* = h(Reg_i || PW_i^*)$,

2.b.2) Check if $Reg_i^* = Reg_i^1$. If there is a match, the insider is successful in finding the correct password PW_i of the user U_i and terminates the procedure. Otherwise, the insider discards this guessed password and guesses a new password, and goes to Step 2.b.1

It is thus clear that an insider of the CoTC/ BRC is successful in deriving the correct password PW_i of a legal user U_i in a relatively small dictionary. Hence, A.K Das et al.'s scheme fails to achieve password guessing attack.

Step 3: from the equation, $\beta_i = \alpha_i \oplus h(ID_i || PW_i)$, (β_i is stored in U_i S.C and is accessible to 'I'). 'I' knows PW_i , β_i . β_i can be rewritten as

$$3.1) \alpha_i = \beta_i \oplus h(ID_i || PW_i).$$

$$3.2) CID_i = (HID_i || R_i || h(TC_i || T_i))^2 \pmod{n}.$$

$$3.3) \text{From } TC_i' = TC_i \oplus h(PW_i' || ID_i || \alpha_i) \Rightarrow TC_i = TC_i' \oplus h(PW_i' || ID_i || \alpha_i) \text{ replacing } TC_i \text{ in above equation (3.2).}$$

$$3.4) CID_i = (HID_i || R_i^* || h(TC_i' \oplus h(PW_i' || ID_i || \alpha_i) || T_i))^2 \pmod{n}. \text{ using 3.1) and 3.3)}$$

$$3.5) \text{Guess an identity } ID_i^* \text{ and compute } \alpha_i^* = \beta_i \oplus h(ID_i^* || PW_i).$$

$$3.6) \text{Substitute } ID_i^* \text{ and } \alpha_i^* \text{ in 3.4 to get } CID_i^* = (HID_i || R_i^* || h(TC_i' \oplus h(PW_i' || ID_i^* || \alpha_i^*) || T_i))^2 \pmod{n}. \text{ Check } CID_i^* = CID_i \text{ if it holds, the attacker find out the identity } ID_i \text{ and the random value } \alpha_i.$$

It is thus clear that an insider of the CoTC/ BRC is successful in deriving the correct identity ID_i , α_i of a legal user U_i in a relatively small dictionary. Hence, A.K Das et al.'s scheme fails to achieve preserving anonymity attack.

Step 4: Based on the above discussion, the attacker 'I' can compute the Message1= $\{CID_i, ID^*SN_j, P1, T1\}$. Therefore, we can prove that A.K.Das et al is vulnerable to user impersonation attack.

Step 5: *Known session-specific temporary information attack*

The reveal or leakage of a session specific random numbers should not reveal the session key generated [1,2,3,4]. Despite, in A.K.Das et al system, if session specific random numbers i.e. R2 and R3 are leaked, the atattcker can frame thesession key.

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