Secure Mobile Collaboration Platform for Transmission and Archival of Medical Images

by

Tholka Mudalige Kasun Kosala Jinasena

Ph.D. 2018

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Declaration

The work described in this thesis was carried out by me under the supervision of Prof.

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other institution for another Degree/Diploma.

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List of Acronyms

ABE Attribute-Based Encryption

ADDIE Analysis, Design, Development, Implementation, and Evaluation

AES Advanced Encryption Standard

CA Certification Authority

CIA Confidentiality, Integrity, and Availability

CRHF Collision Resistant Hash Functions

CSPRNG Cryptographically Secure Pseudo-Random Number Generators

CT Computed Thermography

DES Data Encryption Standard

DICOM Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine

DLP Discrete Logarithm Problem

DRM Digital Rights Management

DSS Digital Signature Standard

ECC Elliptic Curve Cryptography

ECDH Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman

ECDLP Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm Problem

ECDSA Elliptic Curve Digital Signature Algorithm

ECIES Elliptic Curve Integrated Encryption Scheme

EMR Electronic Medical Records

GF Galois Field

GPG GNU Privacy Guard

GPL General Public License

HIS Health Information Systems

HL7 Health Level Seven

HMAC Keyed-Hash Message Authentication Code

IFP Integer Factorization Problem

L2TP Layer Two Transport Protocol

MAC Message Authentication Codes; Mandatory Access Control

MD Message digests

MIDT Medical Identity Theft

MRI Magnetic Resonance Imaging

NIST National Institute of Standards and Technology

OWHF One-Way Hash Functions

PACS Picture Archival Communication System

PET Positron Emission Tomography

PGP Pretty Good Privacy

PHI Personal Health Information

PHIPA Personal Health Information Protection Act

PKI Public Key Infrastructure

PRNG Pseudo-Random Number Generators

ROI Region of Interest

RSA Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman

SHA Secure Hash Algorithms

SPN Substitution-Permutation Network

SSL/TLS Secure Sockets Layer/Transport Layer Security

US Ultrasound

VPN Virtual Private Network

WebRTC Web Real-Time Communication

WM-DRM Windows Media Digital Rights Management

Acknowledgement

First, I wish to dedicate my deeper appreciation to my supervisors Prof. R.G.N. Meegama and Dr. R.B. Marasinghe for their excellent support and guidance towards the success of my goals. Also I owe my gratitude to Dr. Wickrananayake for his continues support towards the success of this research. They spend their valuable time to listen to my ideas, gave me their valuables comments and direct me to the correct path. They always encourage and lift me whenever I fell down.

I would also like to convey my gratitude towards Mr. Dias, and Mrs Hasanthi for giving me their full hand for questionnaires preparation, result analysis and all the statistical works. Moreover, Ms Kasuni, Mr Gunarathne, and Dr. Sanjeewa for their tremendous supports for mathematical works and proof readings of this research. Further, I highly appreciate the generous supports of Dr. Fernando, Mr Harsha, Mr Charitha, and Mr Gayan for servers and infrastructure matters. Finally, I owe my gratitude to all the academics, colleagues, and friends who supported me in various ways to make this research a success. Without their kind support, and encouragements, this research would never have been successfully completed.

I also offer my gratefulness to all the community and individuals who supported me and devoted their valuable time towards this research. Finally, I am grateful to open source community, research community, and all the authors of references for making available their findings to the others for the betterment of the mankind.

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ABSTRACT

With the advancement of technology, the digital health systems are becoming popular among the service providers as well as the consumers alike. Ubiquitous access of internet and mobile devices allow people to access necessary data irrespective of their physical location and the time. This ensures location transparency for their personal and professional duties. On the contrary, this creates vulnerabilities in confidentiality, integrity, and availability especially when sensitive data such as medical and health related data are being transfer over public networks such as internet and mobile networks. It is evident that, the privacy and security issues have become a significant barrier when developing digital health systems. Especially, securing large medical data such as medical images in relatively less powerful devices such as mobile devices is challenging. Mere securing data is insufficient for interactive real-time collaborative discussions sessions in medicine. It needs efficient, robust cryptosystem to assure security services such as digital authentication, dynamic access control, integrity verification, non-repudiation, etc. Moreover, the latest reviews highlight that the present secure mechanisms have been threaten by the rapid advancement of technology and improved algorithms. Therefore, the primary focus of this research is to invent a novel, robust secure mechanism to provide above features.

The requirements and the present status of the research problem have been identified through the literature review, structured interviews, and the questionnaires. The elliptic curve cryptography has been chosen as the cryptographic method for the research. Next, a public key infrastructure was established by setting up a hierarchy of certificate authorities and issuing digital certificates to all the users and the servers. A GUI tool was developed to support digital certificate management. A picture archival and communication system server was established and populated with sample images. Then, an Android-based mobile application was developed to view those medical images remotely through the VPN connections. The app was empowered with collaborative features and an interactive whiteboard in order to conduct real-time interactive discussion with remote experts. This research introduces five access control methods together with a file structure to enforce the access control for multiple users through the same content. An app was developed to test the selected algorithms and the proposed cryptographic work in a mobile environment. Moreover, the usability of the developed tool and the app were tested. The results were critically analyzed.

Results show that the lack of developments in elliptic curve cryptography algorithms in Android. Practical results do not show any significant efficiency in cryptographic work due to un-optimized libraries. In conclusion, this study provide evidence on a successful, novel, robust algorithm based on elliptic curve cryptography to enforce the access control for multiple users through the same content. Additionally, a public key infrastructure management tool, a medical image conversion library and an interactive whiteboard for Android users have been developed for the benefit of future researchers and the open source community.

Keywords: Elliptic Curve Cryptography, Access Control, Digital Rights Management, Mobile Computing, Tele-Radiology