Automated Proof of Resistance of Denial of Service Attacks in Remote Internet Voting Protocol with Extended Applied Pi Calculus

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Abstract: Secure remote internet voting protocols play an important role in electronic government. Owning to the huge damage and hard to prevention of denial of service attacks in security protocols, resistance of denial of service attacks occupy a tiny space and is intricate security requirements for remote voting protocols. Meng protocol is one of the most important remote internet voting protocols that claims to satisfy formal definitions of key properties. In this study firstly the review of the formal model of resistance of denial of service attacks in security protocol are introduced. Then extended applied pi calculus, the mechanized proof tool ProVerif and Huang’s formal model are examined. After that Meng protocol is modeled in extended applied pi calculus. Finally resistance of denial of service attacks is analyzed with ProVerif. The results we obtain are that Meng protocol is not resistance of denial of service attack because one denial of service attacks is found by us. At the same time we give the method against the denial of service attack. To our best knowledge we are conducting the first mechanized proof of resistance of denial of service attacks in Meng protocol for an unbounded number of honest and corrupted voters.

Key words: Automatic verification, protocol state, symbolic model, Pi Calculus

INTRODUCTION

With the development of Internet and information technology, electronic government has got serious attention from enterprise and academic world. Owning to advantages of remote internet voting, it plays an important role in electronic government. In order to assess its security and increase confidence of the voters in remote internet voting system and protocols, many researchers have pay attention to design and verification on secure remote internet voting systems and protocols. So how to develop and verify a practical secure internet voting protocol is a challenging issue (Meng, 2009c, 2011b).

The practical secure remote internet voting protocol should include privacy, completeness, soundness, fairness and invariance, universal verifiability, receipt-freeness and coercion-resistance. Previous research focused on implementation and formal analysis of receipt-freeness and coercion-resistance (Meng, 2009c). Besides these properties, owning to the huge damage and hard to prevention of denial of service attacks in security protocol, the secure remote internet voting protocol should also have resistance of denial of service attacks. In the last twenty years many remote internet voting protocols (Clarkson et al., 2008; Meng, 2007, 2009a; Meng et al., 2010a), claimed on their security, have been proposed. To our best knowledge until now resistance of denial of service attacks in these remote internet voting protocols has not been analyzed.

Owning to the huge damage and hard to prevention of denial of service attacks in security protocol and network, people pay serious attentions on analysis, verification and prevention of denial of service attacks (Tritilanunt, 2009). Denial of service attacks are attacks against availability, attempting to prevent legitimate users from accessing the network and distributed system. This kind of attack aims at rendering a network an system incapable of providing normal service by targeting either the network, bandwidth or connectivity. According to the methods of attacks, denial of service attacks can be classified into three types: resource exhaustion, out of service and physical destroy. Denial of service attacks is simple and effective, for example, the adversary can create many bogus messages and sent to target of attack. That make the target of attack can not provide normal service for legitimate user owning to process big bogus messages. At the same time it is not easy to find the adversary and adversary can mount another type attacks through denial of service attacks, for example, man-in-the-middle attack (Meadows, 2001).

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In order to prevent denial of service attacks the first step is to analyze and prove resistance of denial of service attacks in protocol, network and distributed system with formal method and give the confidence of people in its security. There are two models can be used: one is symbolic model in which cryptographic primitives are ideally abstracted as black boxes, the other is computational model based on complexity and probability theory. Firstly each model formally defines security properties expected from security protocol and then develop methods for strictly proving that given security protocols satisfy these requirements in adversarial environments. Computational model is complicated and is difficult to get the support of mechanized proof tools. In contrast, symbolic model is considerably simpler than the computational model, proofs are therefore also simpler and can sometimes benefit from mechanized proof tools support. For example: SMV (Mei et al., 2009), NRL, Casper, Isabelle, Athena, Revere, SPIN, Brutus, ProVerif, Scyther (Meng, 2011b).

In symbolic model there are mainly three formal frameworks in resistance of denial of service attacks. One is Yu-Gligor formal model (Yu and Gligor, 1990) based on user agreement. The core of framework is based on access control policy. It does not deal with denial of service attacks are executed before authentication between sender and receiver in protocol, for example, SYN floods attacks. At the same time framework does not support the automated tools. The other is Meadows's cost-based formal model (Meadows, 2001) which built on the notion that a protocol is a sequence of operations with cause-effect relationships: an action by one principle usually causes a sequence of actions by another principle that incurs some cost. He argues that his formal framework can be supported by modification of automated tools, for example, NRL protocol analyzer. Tritilaniut et al. (2007) and Tritilaniut et al. (2009) think that the cost analysis has only taken into account honest runs of the protocol in Meadows's cost-based formal model. At the same time they also think that Meadows used only a coarse measure of computational cost with three levels denoted as cheap, medium or expensive. In practice it can be quite difficult to classify and compare operations in such a coarse measure. The third one is Huang et al. formal model (Huang et al., 2011) which is the first automatic method of resistance of denial of service attacks based on theorem proof with first order theorem prover ProVerif. ProVerif is a mechanized proof of cryptographic protocol verifier based on a representation of the protocol by Horn clauses or applied pi calculus. It can handle many different cryptographic primitives, including shared- and public-key encryption and signatures, hash functions and Diffie-Hellman key agreements, specified both as rewrite rules and as equations. It can also deal with an unbounded number of sessions of the protocol and an unbounded message space. When ProVerif cannot prove a property, it can reconstruct an attack, that is, an execution trace of the protocol that falsifies the desired property. ProVerif has been tested on protocols of the literature with very great results. In computational model resistance of denial of service attacks analysis model have not been proposed by Blanchet (2001).

Meng protocol (Meng, 2009b) is one of the most important remote internet voting protocols that claims to satisfy formal definitions of key properties without strong physical constrains. Until now resistance of denial of service attacks in Meng protocol is not analyzed. So here we use mechanized proof tool ProVerif to verify resistance of denial of service attacks in Meng protocol based on Huang et al. (2011) formal model.

The main contributions of this paper are summarized as follows:

- Review the formal model of resistance of denial of service attacks in security protocol. There are mainly three formal frameworks in resistance of denial of service attacks: Yu-Gligor formal model, Meadows's cost-based formal model and Huang et al. (2011) model which is the first automatic method of resistance of denial of service attacks based on theorem proof with first order theorem prover ProVerif. Until now resistance of denial of service attacks analysis model based on computational model have not been proposed
- Apply the mechanized formal model proposed by Huang et al. (2011) model for mechanized proof of Meng protocol and its resistance of denial of service attacks. Therefore, Meng protocol is modeled in extended applied pi calculus and resistance of denial of service attacks take into account. The proof itself is performed by mechanized proof tool ProVerif developed by Blanchet
- The result we obtain is that Meng protocol has not resistance of denial of service attacks. One denial of service attack is found by us. At the same time we give the method against the denial of service attack. To our best knowledge we are conducting the first mechanized proof of resistance of denial of service attacks in Meng protocol for an unbounded number of honest and corrupted voters

**RELATED WORK**

In symbolic model there are mainly three formal frameworks in resistance of denial of service attacks: Yu-Gligor formal model (Yu and Gligor, 1990) based on
user agreement, Meadows's cost-based formal model (Meadows, 2001), Huang et al. (2011) formal model (Huang et al., 2011) based on theorem proof. In computational model resistance of denial of service attacks analysis model has not been proposed. To our best knowledge until now resistance of denial of service attacks in remote voting protocol is not analyzed.

May be one of the first attempts to formalize the notion of resistance of denial of service attacks was done by Gligor (1983, 1984) with maximum waiting time. Gligor defines availability as the guaranty of a maximum specified waiting time for any operation, even in case of concurrent accesses. If a system is resistant of denial of service attacks then any requesting user will wait no more than maximum waiting time units of time before the service is granted.

Yu and Gligor (1990) propose a formal specification on resistance of denial of service attacks based on temporal logic by introduction of notion of user agreement. The core of framework is based on access control policy. They argue that lack of specifications for these agreements makes it impossible to demonstrate denial of service prevention. If the shared services want to resist denial of services attacks the user must to obey the special constrains. They model availability as how to provide a shared service with a specified maximum waiting time. They argue that denial of service attacks is as the liveness which models the finite waiting time policy and safety problem. Their specification model consists of the service specifications and the user-agreement specifications. The service specifications describe all the desired operations and properties that must be provided by the shared service. The user-agreement specifications describe all the desired properties. They use their framework to formalize and analyze denial of services attacks in resource allocator in operating system and Dining philosophers' service. It does not deal with denial of service attacks are executed before authentication between sender and receiver in protocol, for example, SYN floods attacks. At the same time framework does not support the automated tools. Basic and Kuecha (1991) argue that the core problem of resistance of denial of service attacks is resource allocation. They introduce the notion of a resource allocation monitor that has to have the following three reference monitor characteristics: it is tamper-proof and cannot be prevented from operating and guarantees authorized access to resources under its control. Milen' (1993) extended Yu-Gligor formal model by representing the passage of time explicitly. The maximum-waiting-time policy can be expressed as easily as a finite-waiting-time policy. At the same time it can also support other policies of probabilistic nature. Policies and user agreements are expressed without temporal logic. He also proposes a resource allocation model for resistance of denial of service attacks. Waiting time policy consists of a security constraint which says that a subject which asks for a resource has to be provided with it with a maximum waiting time. His formal model catches the effect of realistic system behavior by introducing a state transition model of resource allocation and probabilistic waiting time policies. He also thinks that a denial of service protection base is similar to trusted computing base with strong trust assumptions to guarantee that the constraints on behavior can be reliably enforced. Millen' idea is similar to the one suggested by Abadi and Lamport (1993). Both consider some resource management rules and suggest an approach to model and verify properties including liveness, safety and availability. But Millen' formalism differs significantly which is based on a set-theoretic approach and includes a representation of passage of time explicitly.

Meadows (2001) introduce a very important formal framework of resistance of denial of service attacks based on the costs spending on computation by the principles in security protocols. His formal model based on fail-stop protocol. A fail-stop protocol is one that can provide a certain degree of security against attack and will stop if a message that is interfered with is detected or the verification is failed. The framework is built on the notion that a protocol is a sequence of operations with cause-effect relationships: an action by one principle usually causes a sequence of actions by another principle that incurs some cost. According to Meadows's framework when in a protocol execution at which an attacker can send a message to cause a denial of service attack if the cost of creating the message is small with respect to his resources while the cost to the defender to accept and process the message is relatively more expensive. If this relationship of costs between attacker and defender is not true during a protocol execution, then the protocol is resistance of denial of service attacks. He argues that his formal framework can be supported by modification of automated tools, for example, NRL protocol analyzer. He analyzes the station to station protocol and point out that it is not resistance of denial of service attacks. But Meadows's formal model maybe not practical because the costs of generating a bogus message is small than costs of processing and verifying, so every protocols is not resistance of denial of service attacks. Based on Meadows's cost-based formal model Ramachandran (2002) analyzes JFK protocol and point that JFK protocol is resistance of denial of service attacks with the conditions bogus messages are handled in an appropriate way. Smith et al. (2006) also analyze JFK.
protocol with Meadows’s cost-based formal model. They point out that because both of the Diffie-Hellman exponentials (g' and g) can be reused the coordinated attackers can launch the denial of service attacks. At the same time they also think that owning to that availability of IP addresses makes that the cost of revealing an address may be more expensive to an initiator. JFK protocol can be denial of service attacks in the presence of attackers is not willing to reveal a source IP address. But we think these arguments are worth discussing. Lafrance and Mullins (2003) present a method based on admissible interference for finding denial of service attacks in security protocols. Using SPPA and Meadows’s cost-based framework, they introduce an information flow property called impassivity which detects whenever an enemy process may cause interference, using its low-cost actions, on high-cost actions of other principals. It is based on the fact that such interference may lead to an attack on the protocol by exploiting this single flaw several times and, thus, causing denial of services through resource exhaustion. Their model is suitable to the model of resource exhaustion denial of service attacks. They point out that 1kp electronic payment protocol is not denial of services attacks. Abadi et al. (2007) use the observational equivalence relation to formalize denial of service attacks and find JFK protocol is resistance of denial of services attacks. Tritilanunt et al. (2007) and Tritilanunt (2009) firstly point out that the cost analysis has only taken into account honest runs of the protocol in Meadows’s cost-based formal model. At the same time they also think that Meadows used only a coarse measure of computational cost with three levels denoted as cheap, medium or expensive. In practice it can be quite difficult to classify and compare operations in such a coarse measure. So they use the colored Petri nets to model the denial of services attacks based on cost-based and time-based model and analyzed the HIP protocol. They find that HIP protocol is not resistance of denial of services attacks in the conditions Type 3 adversary or Type 4 adversary. Zhou et al. (2008) propose a model based on strand spaces and 4-way handshakes protocol is analyzed. They find that it is not resistance of denial of services attacks.

Huang et al. (2011) present the first automatic method of resistance of denial of service attacks based on theorem proof with first order theorem prover ProVerif. They extend the applied pi calculus from the attacker contexts and process expression and then from the view of protocol state, they propose the first automatic method of resistance of denial of service attacks based on extended applied calculus. At the same time they analyze resistance of denial of service attacks in JFK protocol and IEEE 802.11 i four-way handshake protocol. The results they obtained are that JFK protocol is resistance of denial of service attacks and IEEE 802.11 i four-way handshake protocol is not. The methods to prevent resistance of denial of service attacks in IEEE 802.11 i four-way handshake protocol are also proposed.

Besides the formal model of Yu-Gligor formal model, Meadows’s cost-based formal model and Huang et al. (2011) formal model, Amoroso (1990) emphasizes the need for specifying a service model in terms of prevent (p, e) policies as predicates concerned subjects, resources and resource consumption operations. Denial of service attacks policies are specified based on predicates that specify conditions, using priorities, under which a subject can deny other authorized subjects access to critical objects. He analyzes resistance of denial of service attacks in system V/MLS with prevent (2, 2).

Based on modal logic and deontic logic, Cuppens and Saurel (1999) propose a formal model to formalize availability policy by the four predicates expression of permissions, prohibitions and obligations of subjects: use-right, disposal-right, realization-right and run-right. They use disposal-right predicate to model waiting time policy and use-right to model use time policy. Their formal framework enables users to express their own required availability properties and to formally check these properties over a given system or protocol by simulating its logical specification. Gabillon and Gallon (2003) resembles the Cuppens and Saurel model. The main difference is that we do not have an explicit waiting time policy. They consider an availability policy as a special case of security policy where the distribution of rights varies with the time. They apply their method to analyze other protocols like the ARINC629 CP or Ethernet. Cuppens et al. (2006) use the formal security model called Nomad which combines deontic and temporal logics to specify availability requirements. Each availability requirement expressed in the Nomad model is transformed into a security aspect that can be woven into a program. They mainly concern the denial of service attacks in program. Nomad can transform an insecure program into a secure program.

Agha et al. (2005) use probabilistic extension of the Maude term rewriting system called PMAUDE to model denial of services attacks and a sublogic of Continuous Stochastic Logic to describe the rate of success of attack and use the statistical model-checking tool VESTA to analyze the TCP 3 3-way Handshaking protocol and find it is not resistance of denial of services attacks. Mahimkar and Shmatikov (2005) use the alternating time temporal
logic (ATL) to model bandwidth consumption and resource exhaustion attacks and verify JFKr using MOCHA a model checker. They find that JFKr is resistance of denial of services attacks.

**REVIEW OF HUANG ET AL. FORMAL MODEL**

In this section we firstly review the extended applied pi calculus, then the definitions of resistance of denial of services, finally the method of automated proof of resistance of denial of service attacks.

**EXTENDED APPLIED PI CALCULUS**

In this section we review extended applied calculus which is based on applied pi calculus. Applied pi calculus (Abadi and Fournet, 2001) is a language for describing concurrent processes and their interactions based on Dolev-Yao model and is an extension of the pi calculus that inherits the constructs for communication and concurrency from the pure pi-calculus. It preserves the constructs for generating statically scoped new names and permits a general systematic development of syntax, operational semantics equivalence and proof techniques. At the same time there are several powerful automatic tool supported applied pi calculus, for example, ProVerif. Applied pi calculus with ProVerif has been used to study a variety of complicated security protocols, such as Just Fast Keying protocol (Abadi et al., 2004, 2007), remote electronic voting protocol (Backes et al., 2008a; Meng et al., 2010c; 2010d; 2011a), a key establishment protocol, direct anonymous attestation protocol (Backes et al., 2008b), TLS protocol (Bhargavan et al., 2008).

In order to model the protocol state and resistance of denial of service attacks, Huang et al. (2011) extend the applied pi calculus from two aspects: one is the adversary context, the other is process expression. In the following review we review the extended applied pi calculus. The extended applied pi calculus is also supported by ProVerif. Here we only review the adversary contexts and process context in extended applied calculus. The other content in extended applied calculus can be found in the reference (Huang et al., 2011).

**Adversary contexts**: In applied pi calculus the adversary is in Dolev-Yao model. But in extended applied pi calculus, according to abilities of adversary the contexts of adversary are classified into two contexts: one is ideal context, the other is real context. Real context is formalized as:

$$\forall u, \forall C \exists [c(u)]^N \exists [u(x)]^P \exists [\forall C \exists [c(u)]^\forall u(x)]^P$$

**DEFINITIONS OF RESISTANCE OF DENIAL OF SERVICE ATTACKS**

Here, we review related definitions of resistance of denial of service attacks in Huang et al. (2011).

**Definition 1**: An annotated Alice-and-bob specification in protocol: An annotated Alice-and-bob specification in protocol consists of n statements of form:
where, i.e. \([1, n]\), \(M_i\) denotes the ith message in protocol.

Protocol consists of \(n\) messages exchanged between two principles A, B. A statement:

\[ A \leftrightarrow B: R_1^j, ..., R_n^j \| M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j \]

describes that firstly the sequences of operations \(R_1^j, ..., R_n^j\) performed by principles A to generate a message \(M_i\) and then it is sent to principle B, finally the sequence of operations \(O_1, ..., O_n^j\) performed by principle B. \(R_1^j, ..., R_n^j\) denotes the sequence of operations performed by principle A for generating \(M_i\), \(O_1, ..., O_n^j\) denotes the sequence of operations performed by principle B after receiving \(M_i\) and processing and verifying \(M_i\).

Let:

\[ I = A \leftrightarrow B: R_1^j, ..., R_n^j \| M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j \]

is an annotated Alice-and-bob specification in protocol. \(A_{\text{in}}(A)\) is a set of operations performed by principle A on \(l\). \(\text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right]\) denotes that the set of the sequence of operations preceding principle \(R_1^j, ..., R_n^j\) sends message \(M_1\) to B.

\[ \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \]

denotes that the set of the sequence of operations \(O_1, ..., O_n^j\) performed by principle B after receiving \(M_i\) if any verification operations, for example, decryption, verification of digital signature, failed then the operation stops.

**Definition 2: authentication of message \(M_i\):** If the statement:

\[ I = A \leftrightarrow B: R_1^j, ..., R_n^j \| M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j \]

is carry out successfully then the fact that principle B receives message \(M_i\) from A exist; if principle B receives message \(M_i\) but principle A does not performance the sequence of operations \(\text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right]\), then message \(M_i\) received by principle B is altered by the adversary; If message \(M_i\) received by principle B is altered by the adversary and B can find the fact that message \(M_i\) is modified, then message \(M_i\) received by principle B is authenticated.

**Definition 3: correspondent in operations:** \(\alpha\) and \(\beta\) are correspondent in operations if and only if message \(M_i\) in:

\[ \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right] \]

are same to message \(M_i\) in:

\[ \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \]

where,

\[ i, j \in [l, n], \alpha \in \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right], \beta \in \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \]

\[ \alpha \in \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right], \beta \in \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \]

\[ \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right] \]

denotes that the set of the sequence of operations for generating the message \(M_i\) by principle A.

\[ \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \]

denotes the set of the sequence of operations for processing and verifying the message \(M_i\) by principle B.

**Definition 4: \(\gamma_1\) casually precedes \(\gamma_2\):** P is an annotated Alice-and-bob specification in protocol, \(S\) is a set of all operations in \(P\). For any operation \(\gamma_1\) and \(\gamma_2\) in \(S\), \(\gamma_1\) casually precedes \(\gamma_2\) if and only if:

If:

\[ \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right] \]

or:

\[ \gamma_1, \gamma_2 \in \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right], i, j \in [l, n] \]

at the same time \(\gamma_1\) occurred before \(\gamma_2\):

If:

\[ \gamma_1 \in \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right], \gamma_2 \in \text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right], i, j \in [l, n] \]

at the same time \(\gamma_1\) and \(\gamma_2\) are correspondent.

There is operations \(\gamma_3\), \(\gamma_4\) casually precedes \(\gamma_5\). \(\gamma_1\) casually precedes \(\gamma_2\).

\[ \text{act}_l(A)\left[R_1^j, ..., R_n^j, M_1\right] \]

denotes that the set of the sequence of operations for generating the message \(M_i\) by principle A. \(\text{act}_l(B)\left[M_1, O_1, ..., O_n^j\right] \)

denotes that the set of the sequence of operations for processing and verifying the message \(M_i\) by principle B.
Definition 5: set of association in message $M_i$ and $M_j$: Set of association $\omega$ between any message $M_i$ and $M_j$ in protocol $P$ is intersection of set $\mathcal{U}$ and set $\psi$, $\omega = \mathcal{U} \cap \psi$, where $I_i, j \in [1, n], i < j$, $\mathcal{U}$ is set of data items in verification operations $v$ in $\text{act}(B[M_i, O_i, \ldots, O_j])$, $\psi$ is the set of data items in message $M_j$ in $\text{act}(B[M_i, O_i, \ldots, O_j])$.

Set of association $\omega$ describes the degree and relation of influence among messages in protocol. If $\omega$ is null set, then messages in protocol are independent and are not related; if $\omega$ is not null and includes many data items, then messages $M_i$ and $M_j$ are related deeply.

Definition 6: resistance of denial of service attacks: $P$ is an annotated Alice-and-bob specification in protocol, $B$ is resistance of denial of service attacks if and only if set of association $\omega$ between any message $M_i$ and $M_j$ in set $\text{Recv}(B)$:

- $\omega$ is null set $\emptyset$
- Any data items in $\omega$ are authenticated

Where $\text{Recv}(B)$ is set where data items are in operations that are ordered in casually precede in:

$$\text{act}(B[M_i, O_i, \ldots, O_j], i, j \in [1, n], i < j)$$

If any message $M_i$ and $M_j$ in protocol $P$ are not related, then contexts of processing the message $M_i$ and $M_j$ are independent, then $B$ is resistance of denial of service attacks; if any message $M_i$ and $M_j$ in protocol $P$ are related, then contexts of processing and verifying message $M_i$ and $M_j$ are not independent, then $B$ is resistance of denial of service attacks if and only if set of association $\omega$ of any message $M_i$ and $M_j$ in protocol $P$ are authenticated.

**METHOD OF AUTOMATED PROOF OF RESISTANCE OF DENIAL OF SERVICE ATTACKS**

In this section we review the automated proof of resistance of denial of service attacks in protocol by Hung et al. (2011) formal model.

Applying the extended applied pi calculus the protocol can be modeled as an annotated Alice-and-Bob specification. It assumes that the protocol exchanges $2n$ messages between principles Alice and Bob in a run. Principles Bob receives $n$ messages $M_i$, $i \in [1, n]$. Principles Bob sends $n$ messages $M_i$, $i \in [1, n]$. Protocol process $PP = \text{vii}(\text{Alice} || \text{Bob})$ is a closed process and consists of parallel composition of any initiator processes Alice and responder processes Bob. According to the extended applied pi calculus process Alice and Bob can be reduced into one process in Fig. 2.

![Fig. 2: Processes](image)

**Fig. 3: The formal model of messages $M_i \in [1, n]$**

In order to use ProVerif to automatic proof of resistance of denial of service attacks of Bob, the any messages $M_i$, $i \in [1, n]$ is modeled with the extended applied pi calculus. If the adversary can get the secret on the public channel $c$, then the adversary can launch a denial of service attacks by attacks of message $M_i$.

The method is used to model the messages $M_i$, $i \in [1, n]$ in Fig. 3. The message $M_i$ is exchanged and processed in real context. The messages

$$M_1, M_2, \ldots, M_n$$

are exchanged and processed in idea context. Protocol process $PP$ is

$$PP = \text{vii}(\text{Alice} || \text{Bob})$$

$c$ is public channel, $c_i$, $j \in [2, n], j \neq i$ are private channels used to receive messages $M_i$ if $j \neq i$.

$$\text{Alice}, (\rightarrow \cup \exists) C[\sigma_i(c_i)] \langle M_i \rangle \text{Alice}_{c_i}, i \in \bar{n}, i \notin \bar{n}$$

$$\text{Bob}, (\rightarrow \cup \exists) C[\sigma(c)] \langle M_i \rangle \text{Bob}_{c_i}, i \in \bar{n}$$

$$\text{Alice}, (\rightarrow \cup \exists) C[\sigma_i(c_i)] \langle M_i \rangle \text{Alice}_{c_i}, i \in \bar{n}, j \in [1, n], j \neq i$$

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If the adversary can get the secret message secret on the public channel c, then the adversary can launch a denial of service attacks by attacks of message M_i.

**Theorem: resistance of denial of service attacks:** Responder Bob in protocol process PP is resistance of denial of services attacks if and only if the formal model of all messages M_i, i, ∈ [1, n] received by principle Bob, PP can not output the secret message secret, in other words, there is not processes P, P* and attacker process attacker to cause:

\[(PP|\text{Attacker})(\rightarrow \cup \Rightarrow) \overline{\epsilon}(S), P' \vdash P, * \in \mathbb{E}, S \in \mathbb{E}\]

According to the theorem, people can use the extended applied pi calculus to model resistance of denial of services attacks in protocol, then based on the proposed theorem, apply ProVerif to automated prove the resistance of denial of services attacks.

**MECHANIZED PROOF TOOL PROVERIF**

ProVerif is an automatic cryptographic protocol verifier based on a representation of the protocol by Horn clauses. It can handle many different cryptographic primitives, including shared- and public-key cryptography (encryption and signatures), hash functions and Diffie-Hellman key agreements, specified both as rewrite rules and as equations. It can also deal with an unbounded number of sessions of the protocol (even in parallel) and an unbounded message space. When ProVerif cannot prove a property, it can reconstruct an attack, that is, an execution trace of the protocol that falsifies the desired property. ProVerif can prove the following properties: secrecy, authentication and more generally correspondence properties, strong secrecy, equivalences between processes that differ only by terms. ProVerif in Fig. 11 has been tested on protocols of the literature with very encouraging results (http://www.proverif.ens.fr/proverif-users.html). Recent research came up with an abstraction of zero-knowledge proofs, a primitive heavily used within electronic voting protocols that are accessible to an automated analysis using ProVerif (Blanchet, 2001).

ProVerif is the only tool for our purpose of an automated verification of Meng protocol based on Huang et al. (2011) model. Inspired by works of Huang et al. (2011) model we use it to automatically verify resistance of denial of services attacks in Meng protocol.

**MENG PROTOCOL**

Meng protocol (Meng, 2009b) promises that it can protect voters' privacy and achieves universal verifiability, receipt-freeness and coercion-resistance with weak physical assumptions or procedural constraints. It mainly applies the encryption technologies which include threshold ElGamal cryptosystem, Mix net, homomorphic encryption, Meng non-interactive deniable authentication protocol (Meng, 2009c) and the improved proof protocol that knowledge that two ciphertexts are encryption of the same plaintext. Meng protocol assumes that the private key is private and that the channel between voters and registration authority is one way anonymous channel. Meng protocol consists of the five authorities: registration authority that is responsible for authenticating the voters, issue authority that takes charge of issuing the related key and credentials, bulletin board, voters, tallying authority that is responsible for tallying ballots. The message structure is depicts in Fig. 4.

In preparation phase issuer authority generates the public/private ElGamal keys. The private keys of voter and authorities are secret. It also generates the ballot B_i and send B_i and its digital signature to bulletin board denoted by bulletin board.

In registration phase firstly voter voter, generates message

\[\text{ENV}_{\text{rc}}(SK, \text{ident}, \text{ident}, PK, \text{ident})\]

and send it to the registration authority A_i. A_i receives the message and open the digital envelope with its private key. He checks ident, that weather it has registered or not. If it has not registered, he checks Sk (ident). Then A_i generates \text{Proof}_p based on Meng non-interactive deniable protocol and the improved proof protocol that knowledge that two ciphertexts are encryption of the same plaintext with ElGamal cryptosystem. Finally A_i generates \text{ENV}_{\text{rc}}(E^{(k_i)}, \text{Proof}_p)\'. Other registration authorities generate

\[\text{ENV}_{\text{rc}}(E^{(k_i)}, \text{Proof}_p') (i = 1, \ldots, i - 1, i + 1, \ldots, s)\]

with the similar method. A_i gets

\[\text{ENV}_{\text{rc}}(E^{(k_i)}, \text{Proof}_p') (i = 1, \ldots, i - 1, i + 1, \ldots, s)\]

from other authorities and sends
Fig. 4: The structure of message

\[ \text{ENV}_{V_i}(E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c)) (i=1,\ldots,i,\ldots,s) \]

to voter \(V_i\) by one way anonymous channel. Also, it also generates \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) and sends \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) \((i=1,\ldots,i,\ldots,s)\) to Bulletin Board. After voter \(V_i\) receives \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) he verifies Meng non-interactive deniable protocol proof and proof of equality between \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) and the corresponding \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) that has been signed and published in her reserved area of bulletin board. Upon successful verification, she multiplies together the shares \((E'(c_i, \text{Proof}_c))_{SK_{V_i}}\) and gets \(E'(c_i)\). Then voter \(V_i\) chooses his favorite ballot shares \(E'(b_{1i}),\ldots,E'(b_{si})\) and gets:

\[ E'(b_i') = E'\left( \sum_{j=1}^{k} E'(b_{ji}) \right) \]

then sends \((E'(c_i), E'(b_i'))\) to bulletin board. The registration phase ends.

After the voting time expires, all ballots on bulletin board posted by allegedly eligible voters are mixed by the tallying authorities. Tallying authority publishes the tallying result on bulletin board.

**MODELING MENG PROTOCOL WITH EXTENDED APPLIED PI CALCULUS IN HUANG ET AL. FORMAL MODEL**

In order to use ProVerif to analyze resistance of denial of service attacks in Meng protocol, in this section we use the extended applied pi calculus to model Meng protocol.

Firstly the function and equational theory is introduced. Cryptography in a Dolev-Yao model is modeled as being perfect. Figure 5 describes the functions and Fig. 6 describes the equational theory in Meng protocol.

**Function and equational theory**: Encryption algorithm and decryption algorithm in the probabilistic public key cryptosystem is denoted with \(pPKenc(x, pu, r)\) and \(pPKdec(x, PR)\), respectively. The deterministic public key encryption scheme consists of encryption algorithm

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Fun} \ pPKdec(x, PR) & \quad \text{Fun} \ pPKenc(x, PU, r) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{SelfBinding}(x, PU) \\
\text{Fun} \ PK(x) & \quad \text{Fun} \ SK(x) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{sign}(x, PR) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{add}(x, y) \\
\text{Fun} \ \text{verifyFsign}(x, PU, y) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{decFsign}(x, PU) & \quad \text{Fun} \ NDAMAC(x, PR, PU, z) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{projection}(x) \\
\text{Fun} \ \text{TpPKenc}(x, PU, r) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{TpPKdec}(x, PR) & \quad \text{Fun} \ \text{checkciphertext}(x, x_j) \\
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 5: Functions

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{equation} \ \text{verifyFsign}(\text{sign}(x, SK(y)), PK(y), x) & = \text{true} \quad \text{equation} \ \text{decFsign}(\text{sign}(x, SK(y)), PK(y)) = x \\
\text{equation} \ \text{TpPKdec}(\text{SelfBlinding}(\text{TpPKenc}(x, PK(y), r), PK(y)), SK(y)) = x \\
\text{equation} \ \text{TpPKdec}(\text{TpPKenc}(x, PK(y), r), SK(y)) = x \\
\text{equation} \ \text{add}(\text{projection}(x), \text{projection}(y)) = x \\
\text{equation} \ \text{checkciphertext}(\text{TpPKenc}(x_j, PU, r_j), \text{TpPKenc}(x_i, PU, r_i)) = \text{true} \\
\text{equation} \ \text{NDAMAC}(x, SK(y), PK(z)) = \text{NDAMAC}(x, PK(y), SK(z))
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 6: Equational theory

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Public}_i(ZK_{\pi_i}(N, \bar{M}, F)) = N_x & \quad \text{Formula}(ZK_{\pi_i}(N, \bar{M}, F)) = F \\
\text{Ver}_{\pi_i}(F, ZK_{\pi_i}(N, \bar{M}, F)) = \text{true} & \iff \left( F(N / \bar{d}) (\bar{M} / \bar{b}) = \text{true} \right) \land \left( F \text{ is an } (i, j) - \text{formula} \right)
\end{align*}
\]

Fig. 7: Model of zero knowledge proof (Backes et al., 2008b)

PK enc (x, PR) and decryption algorithm PK dec (x, PR). Digital signature algorithm includes the generation signature algorithm sign(x, PU) sign the message x with private key PU and the verification algorithm verify signature x with public key PU. decFsign(x, PU) recover the message from the digital signature x with public key PU. The probabilistic threshold combining algorithm TpPKdec(x_i, ..., x_i) recovers x from x_i, ..., x_i. The deterministic threshold combining algorithm TpPKdec(x_i, ..., x_i) means that recover x from x_i, ..., x_i. The projection function projection(x) generated the ith share from the formatted message x. The self binding function selfBinding(x, r) blinds message x with r. The add function add(x, y) add x and y. checkciphertext verify the two ciphertext x_i and x_j generated with the same plaintext. SK(x), PK(x), VK(x) generated the secret key, public key and verification key of x. NDAMAC(x, PR, PU, z) generates MAC in Meng non-interactive deniable protocol.

The equational theory is described in Fig. 6. It also contains and equational rules for abstractly reasoning about the knowledge proof that two ciphertexts are encryption of the same plaintext and used in the voting phase which is modeled as checkciphertext (TpPKenc(x_i, PU, r_i), TpPKenc(x_j, PU, r_j)) = true. It can verify the two ciphertexts TpPKenc(x_i, PU, r_i) generated with the public key PU_i and random number r_i and TpPKenc(x_j, PU, r_j), TpPKenc(x_i, PU, r_i) generated with the public key PU_i and random number r_i, are the same plaintext x_i. Voter can use the equation NDAMAC(x, SK(y), PK(z)) to compare the MAC receives from registration authority in non-interactive deniable authentication protocol to the MAC generated itself with relative parameters.

Zero knowledge proof modeled in Fig. 7 is used to model the improved proof protocol that knowledge that two ciphertexts are encryption of the same plaintext with ElGamal cryptosystem.

Then in the following section we model the process in Meng protocol which consists of the basic process include main process, voter process, corrupted voter process, registration authority process, issuer authority process, BB process and tallying authority process.

The main process in Fig. 8 sets up private channels chVR, chRI1, chRI1, and specifies how the processes are combined in parallel. chVR denotes the private channel between voter and registration authority. chRI1 and chRI2 are the private channel between registration authority and issuer authority, respectively. The main process also generates the key parameters c for credentials, v for vote, s for non-homomorphic cryptosystem, keyV for voter and keyI for issuer authority.

Voter process is modeled in extended applied pi calculus in Fig. 9. Each voter get the non-interactive deniable authentication protocol's ciphertexts kencNDA, and kencNDA from registration authority, then decrypt and get the knowledge proofs PEP1 and PEP2, the MAC in non-interactive deniable authentication proof NDAMAC,
Meng protocol

\[\text{new C,new V;new key}_1\text{,new key}_2\text{,new key}_3\text{,new key}_4\text{,new key}_5\text{,new key}_6\text{,new chVR,new chRL,new chRI};\]
\{(voter, corrupted voter, tallying authority, issuer authority, issuer authority, registration authority)\}

Fig. 8: Main process

\[
\text{voter}\ 
\begin{array}{c}
\text{new nonce; out(chVR, nonce); in(chVR, id); in(chVR, kencNDA)}; \text{ in(chVR, kencNDA)}; \\
\text{let } (\text{NDAMAC}_{C_2}\text{.PEP}_2, \text{PK}_R) = pPKdec(kencNDA_2, SK(keyV)) \text{ in} \\
\text{let } (\text{NDAMAC}_{C_2}\text{.PEP}_2, \text{PK}_R) = pPKdec(kencNDA_2, SK(keyV)) \text{ in} \\
\text{if } \text{NDAMAC}(\text{PEP}_2, SK(keyV), \text{PK}_R) = \text{NDAMAC}_1 \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{NDAMAC}(\text{PEP}_2, SK(keyV), \text{PK}_R) = \text{NDAMAC}_1 \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{Ver}_\text{c}(\text{proof}_{\text{auth}}, \text{PEP}) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{Ver}_\text{c}(\text{proof}_{\text{auth}}, \text{PEP}) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{checkciphertext}(\text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}), \text{Public}_2(\text{PEP})) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{let cred} = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}) \text{ in} \\
\text{let cred} = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}) \text{ in} \\
\text{new r;} \\
\text{let vote} = \text{ballot} \in \{v_1, v_2\} \text{ in} \\
\text{let vencvote} = \text{TpPKenc}(\text{vote,PK(V),r}) \text{ in} \\
\text{out}(\text{pub}, (\text{cred, vencvote})) \\
\text{else out}(c, \text{secret}) \\
\text{else out}(c, \text{secret}) \\
\text{else out}(c, \text{secret})
\end{array}
\]

Fig. 9: Voter process

\[
\text{corrupted voter}\ 
\begin{array}{c}
\text{new nonce; out(chVR, nonce); in(chVR, id);} \\
\text{in(chVR, kencNDA)}; \text{ in(chVR, kencNDA)}; \\
\text{let } (\text{NDAMAC}_{C_2}\text{.PEP}_2, \text{PK}_R) = pPKdec(kencNDA_2, SK(keyV)) \text{ in} \\
\text{let } (\text{NDAMAC}_{C_2}\text{.PEP}_2, \text{PK}_R) = pPKdec(kencNDA_2, SK(keyV)) \text{ in} \\
\text{if } \text{NDAMAC}(\text{PEP}_2, SK(keyV), \text{PK}_R) = \text{NDAMAC}_1 \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{NDAMAC}(\text{PEP}_2, SK(keyV), \text{PK}_R) = \text{NDAMAC}_1 \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{Ver}_\text{c}(\text{proof}_{\text{auth}}, \text{PEP}) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{Ver}_\text{c}(\text{proof}_{\text{auth}}, \text{PEP}) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{if } \text{checkciphertext}(\text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}), \text{Public}_2(\text{PEP})) = \text{true} \text{ then} \\
\text{let cred} = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}) \text{ in} \\
\text{let cred} = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \text{Public}_1(\text{PEP}) \text{ in} \\
\text{out}(\text{pub, cred})
\end{array}
\]

Fig. 10: Corrupted voter process

and NDAMAC\(_{C_2}\) respectively. After that the voter checks
NDAMAC\(_{C_1}\) and NDAMAC\(_{C_2}\), then uses checkciphertext to
verify the equivalence between public, (PEP) and
public\(_{C_2}\) (PEP). If the verification is failed then it outputs secret
by public channel c. The voter multiplies:

\[
\text{cred} = \prod_{i=1}^{2} \text{Public}_1(\text{PEP})
\]

Because of the homomorphic properties of ElGamal
cryptosystem, the resulting ciphertext cred includes
the sum of credential shares. The resulting ciphertext
(cred, vencvote - TpPKenc(vote, PK(V), r)) is sent to bulletin board.

Corrupted voters process is modeled in Fig. 10. He
can sends cred through a public channel, thus the
attacker can get the credential cred, so that the attacker
can use the cred to impersonate them in order to mount
any sort of attack.

Registration authority process is modeled in Fig. 11
that firstly generates the voters id, then gets the secret
credentials shares cred, and cred\(_{\text{C}}\) from issuer authority.
Then he creates the ciphertexts of non-interactive
deniable authentication proof that the proof of the
equivalence between the encrypted share sent to the 

voter pPKenc (NDAMAC (PEP₂, SK (key R), PK (key V)), PEP₁, PK (key R), PK (key V), r) and pPKenc (NDAMAC (PEP₂, SK (key R), PK (key V)), PEP₁, PK (key R), PK (key V), r).

Issuer authority is modeled in Fig. 12 that firstly gets 

the shares of credential by projection, (cred), then send 

sign [TPPKenc (projection), PK (C), r], SK (C)] which 

encrypted with a set of ElGamal public parameters by the 

certification authority and the bulletin board.

BB process is modeled in Fig. 13. BB process 

receives k-voter, pk-reg, pk-iss1, pk-iss2 through public 

channel pub and out public key pk-reg from public 

channel chBV.

Tallying authority process is modeled in Fig. 14. 

After the voting time expires, the tallying authorities get 

the all ballots on bulletin board and then mixed it by 

eIBlinding (cenced, PK (C)). At the same time the 

shares of credentials posted by the registration 

authorities are also combined and then mixed 

selfBlinding (vencedvote, PK (V)). Thus he obtain two 

lists: a list:

\[
\prod_{i=2}^{n} \text{TPPKenc(cred,PK(C),r)}
\]

and a set res. The two lists have been encrypted with 
different ElGamal public parameters. Using threshold 
protocols for the corresponding sets of private keys, 
the tallying authorities decrypt the elements in each 
list by TpPKdec (boencertified, SK (C)) and TpPKdec 
(boencertified, SK (V)) then compare them through a 
search algorithm and publish the tallying result on bulletin 
board.
MECHANIZED PROOF OF MENG PROTOCOL WITH PROVERIF

ProVerif can take two formats as input: one is Horn clauses, the other is process in an extension of the pi calculus (Abadi and Blanchet, 2005; Huang et al., 2011). In both cases, the output of the system is essentially the same. In this paper we use the extended pi calculus as the input of ProVerif.

In order to prove resistance of denial of services attacks in Meng protocol the formal model in extended applied pi calculus are needed to be translated into the syntax of ProVerif and generated the ProVerif inputs in the extended pi calculus. The code in analysis of resistance of denial of service attacks in voter in Meng protocol is presented in Fig. 15.

The result of resistance of denial of services attacks in Meng protocol in Fig. 16. We find that Meng protocol is not resistance of denial of services attacks because ProVerif out the message “Secret” by public channel c. In Meng protocol there is one resistance of denial of services attack by us: in preparation phase issuer authority publishes public keys $\text{PK}^v$, $\text{PK}^i$ for voter and his public key $\text{PK}^k$ on BB without protecting security of these public keys by public channels. Thus the adversary can intercept public keys $\text{PK}^v$, $\text{PK}^i$, $\text{PK}^k$ and modify it,
then send it to BB. In voting phrase voter v₁ firstly verifies non-interactive deniable authentication proof DAMAC₁ and DAMAC₂, then he uses checkiphoertext to check the equivalence between the encrypted share public, (PEP₁) and the one B'(c₁) the voter has received to its message is also provided to itself. PK₅ has been publish on BB with digital signature with authority. Owning the adversary has modified the public keys PK₅, hence the verification of DAMAC₁ and DAMAC₂ failed, thus voter v₁ can not vote. Hence make a resistance of denial of services attack. In order to protect Meng protocol against the denial of service attack we can use the digital certificate to distribute these public keys: PK', PK* and PK₅.
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CONCLUSION

Internet voting protocol play an important role in remote voting system. Owning to the huge damage and hard to prevention of denial of service attacks in security protocol, the secure remote internet voting protocol should have resistance of denial of service attacks.

Recently Huang et al. (2011) proposed an automatic model that can be used to analyze the denial of service attacks in security protocol, so Meng protocol can be proved with mechanized proof tool ProVerif. In this paper the review formal model of resistance of denial of service attacks in security protocol are presented. Then apply the mechanized formal model proposed by Huang et al. (2011) The result is that Meng protocol has not resistance of denial of service attacks. One denial of service attack is found by us. At the same time we give the method against the denial of service attack.

As future work we plan to prove other resistance of denial of service attacks internet voting protocols. It would also be interesting to formalize the security properties in wireless communication protocol in the formal model with mechanized proof tool ProVerif. At the same time we will formalize the security properties of remote internet voting protocols in the computational model with mechanized tool CryptoVerif.

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