

# Verifying Group Authentication Protocols by Scyther

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## Abstract

Scyther [1] is a tool designed to formally analyze security protocols, their security requirements and potential vulnerabilities. It is designed under the perfect or unbreakable encryption assumption [2], which means that an adversary learns nothing from an encrypted message unless he knows the decryption key. To our best knowledge, most protocols analyzed using Scyther are widely used standards and their complexity are limited. In this paper, we use Scyther to analyze two complex group authentication protocols [3] and their security properties. Due to the design goals and limitations of Scyther, we have only checked a subset of the security properties, which show that the group authentication protocols provide mutual authentication, implicit key authentication and they are secure against impersonation attack and passive adversaries. To achieve this, we have extended the expressing ability of Scyther based on some reasonable assumptions.

**Keywords:** formal verification, group authentication, Scyther

## 1 Introduction

There are two main approaches to the verification of security of protocols: provable security [4–6] and formal methods [7, 8]. Scyther [1] is one of the formal verification tools and is designed for the automatic verification of security protocols. The adversary model of Scyther is predefined, which is Dolev-Yao’ model [9]. This approach has simplified the formalization of security protocols and makes it easier to start to work with Scyther for new users. Compared with other formal verification tools, such as SPIN [10, 11] (language Promela), the specification language of Scyther is no complicated and thus fast to learn. Scyther also outperformed some other state-of-the-art protocol verification tools, for instance, ProVerif tool [12]. In addition, Scyther can provide classes of protocol behavior compared with just single attack traces provided by other tools [13]. As far as we know, Scyther has already been used to verify different types of protocols, including authentication protocols (e.g., IKEv1 [14] and IKEv2 [14] protocol suites and the ISO/IEC 9798 [15, 16] family) and authenticated key exchange (AKE) protocols [17] (e.g., HMQV [18], NAXOS [19]). The common for all these protocols is that their complexity is limited. In [20], we tried to use Scyther to analyze two complicated group authentication protocols, originally proposed in [3]. The main purpose of these group authentication protocols is to improve authentication efficiency for large groups. The relation between the authenticator and users to be authenticated is one to one. However, in this type group authentication protocols, the authenticator can authenticate multiple users at the same time. If the group authentication protocol proceeds successfully, mutual authentication should be achieved and a group session key will be agreed on.

In [3], a general framework was proposed for two types group authentication protocols by implementing different cryptographic primitives. The main difference between protocols of Type I and Type II is that an authenticator in Type II has PKI-based certificate while authenticators in Type I does not,

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*Journal of Wireless Mobile Networks, Ubiquitous Computing, and Dependable Applications*, 7:2 (June 2016), pp. 3-19

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but all protocols constructed under this general framework were claimed in [3] to satisfy several security requirements, including security against passive adversaries, against impersonation attacks, providing mutual authentication, implicit authentication, forward and backward secrecy. To demonstrate how to construct protocols of both types, two examples were provided in [3]: one is based on the discrete logarithm problem (DLP) [21], and the second one is based on the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem (ECDLP) [22] respectively. However, only protocols of both types based on DLP are analyzed, because ECDLP can be seen as a special type of DLP. Once the DLP-based protocols are proven to satisfy those security requirements, it can be concluded that ECDLP-based protocols will satisfy the same security requirements because of the way how to formalize DLP and ECDLP in Scyther.

This paper is an extension of [20]. The following two innovations are added. First of all, in [20], we only discussed the case where the group size was three, while in this paper, we analyze the cases for groups containing two, three and four members. More importantly, we show how to formalize DLP-based protocols of both Type I and Type II when the number of group members is  $N$  ( $N \geq 3$ ). Secondly, we analyze some new properties of the protocols, including “Alive” and “Nisynch”. More details will be given in Sections 3, 4 and 5.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In the next section, we describe the general framework and the DLP-based protocols that we analyze in this paper. Then we introduce the model checking tool Scyther, its adversary model and specification language in Section 3. In Sections 4 and 5, we describe the details of how to use Scyther to formalize the DLP-based protocols of both Type I and Type II, including modeling difficult mathematical problems, security requirements and the algorithms that formalize these protocols when the number of group users vary. Finally, we conclude this paper in the last section.

## 2 Description of the Group Authentication Protocols

In this section, we describe the group authentication protocols. In Subsection 2.1, we briefly explain when and where these group authentication protocols can be applied and their main purposes. Next the message flow within the general framework and details about the DLP-based protocols will be explained in Subsections 2.2 and 2.3 respectively.

### 2.1 Usage scenarios

Two usage scenarios are considered in [3] and corresponding group authentication protocols are proposed (Type I and Type II). The main difference between proposed protocols is that the authenticator in Type II has a certificate but the authenticator in Type I does not. As shown in Fig. 1(a), the authenticator has a friend list, but members in this list may or may not know each other. Every time before group meeting, the authenticator first selects group members and then he needs to authenticate every member in this group. Since all members have already registered as the authenticator’s friends, we assume they share some secrets with the authenticator before the authentication. In Type II (Fig. 1(b)), the authenticator is a server and needs to authenticate a couple of users not necessary known in advance. In this case, the server should possess a certificate to perform the group authentication.

### 2.2 The general framework

Assume there are  $N$  members in user group  $\mathbb{U}$ . The message flow of the general framework proposed in [3] can be described in the following four steps.

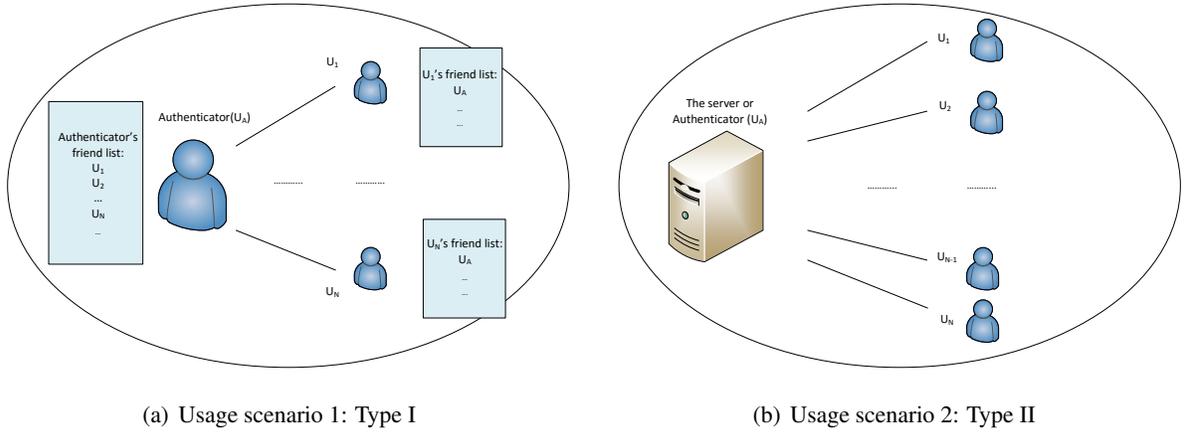


Figure 1: Two types of usage scenarios

- 1)  $U_A \rightarrow U_1 : ID_A, UID, X, C_0, MAC_A$ .
- 2)  $U_i \rightarrow U_{i+1} : ID_i, UID, X, KP_U, C_i, MAC_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq N - 1$ .
- 3)  $U_N \rightarrow U_A : ID_N, KP_U, C_N, MAC_N$ .
- 4)  $U_A \rightarrow \mathbb{U} : Y, MAC'_A$ .

- 1) To start a new session, the authenticator  $U_A$  generates a message  $\{ID_A, UID, X, C_0, MAC_A\}$  and sends it to the first user  $U_1$  of the user group  $\mathbb{U}$ . In this message,  $ID_A$  is  $U_A$ 's identity,  $UID$  is the identity set of all users in  $\mathbb{U}$ , parameter  $X$  carries some important information that  $U_A$  wants to deliver to all users in  $\mathbb{U}$ ,  $C_0$  is a parameter that is used to calculate  $C_1$  and  $MAC_A$  is the message authentication code (MAC) [23] for message  $\{ID_A, UID, X, C_0\}$ .

After receiving the message from  $U_A$ ,  $U_1$  first checks the integrity of the message. If the message is not tampered,  $U_1$  continues. Otherwise, it aborts the session and the authentication fails.

- 2) If the message received by  $U_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N - 1$ ) is valid,  $U_i$  first computes  $C_i$  based on  $C_{i-1}$ , then generates a key parameter and adds it to  $KP_U$ , where  $KP_U$  is the key parameter set of user group  $\mathbb{U}$ . Next  $U_i$  computes the MAC value  $MAC_i$  of  $\{ID_i, UID, X, KP_U, C_i\}$  and sends  $\{ID_i, UID, X, KP_U, C_i, MAC_i\}$  to  $U_{i+1}$ . When  $U_{i+1}$  receives the message, it does the same as  $U_1$  did in Step 1).
- 3) The behavior of  $U_N$  is the same as  $U_1$ . Once  $U_A$  verifies that the message from  $U_N$  has not been tampered with, it checks whether  $C_N$  is valid. If so, all users in user group  $\mathbb{U}$  are successfully authenticated. If either  $MAC_N$  or  $C_N$  is invalid,  $U_A$  aborts the session and the group authentication fails.
- 4)  $U_A$  embeds key parameters generated by the user group in parameter  $Y$ . Meanwhile,  $U_A$  computes the session keys based on parameters from  $KP_U$  and those generated by itself. Then  $U_A$  computes  $MAC'_A$  and sends the whole message to every user in  $\mathbb{U}$ .

After user  $U_i$  gets the message from  $U_A$  and validates  $MAC'_A$ , it retrieves its key parameter from  $Y$  and computes session keys.

### 2.3 DLP-based protocols

In this subsection, we explain how to compute parameters  $C_i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq N$ ),  $X$  and  $Y$  of DLP-based protocols for both Type I and Type II proposed in [3]. The details are as follows.

- 1)  $C_0$  is computed by  $U_A$  by  $C_0 = \xi(r) = \xi(g^{r_A})$ , where  $r_A \in [1, p-1]$  is a random number,  $\xi$  is a message to be encrypted by Elgamal encryption algorithm [24]. Similarly,  $U_i$  ( $2 \leq i \leq N$ ) computes  $C_i$  as  $C_i = C_{i-1} \times r^{x_i} = \xi(r^{\sum_{l=1}^i x_l})$ .
- 2)  $X$  is computed as a solution of  $X \equiv V_i \pmod{k_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) by using Chinese remainder theorem (CRT) [25], where  $k_i$  is a secret shared between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$ . In the DLP-based protocol of Type I,  $V_i = \{y_i \oplus K_G, y_i \oplus t_i, g^{m_i}, h_i\}$  and  $h_i = H(ID_A \oplus ID_i \oplus y_A \oplus t_i)$  which is used to authenticate  $U_A$  by  $U_i$ . Here,  $y_i$  is a pre-shared secret between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$ ,  $K_G$  is the group session key generated by  $U_A$ ,  $t_i$  is a nonce and  $g^{m_i}$  is the key parameter generated by  $U_A$  to compute the key shared between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$ . In the DLP-based protocol of Type II,  $V_i = SIGN_{SK_A}\{ID_A, ID_i, K_G, g^{m_i}, t_i\}$ . Parameters  $g^{m_i}$  and  $t_i$  have the same meanings as in Type I, and the authentication of  $U_A$  is realized by the verification by its signature instead of using  $h_i$  as in Type I.
- 3)  $U_A$  computes  $Y$  by solving  $Y \equiv W_i \pmod{k_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ), where  $W_i = \{ID_A, ID_i, KP_i\}$  and  $KP_i = KP_U - \{g^{n_i}\}$ .
- 4) The session key between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$  is computed as  $g^{m_i n_i}$ , while the session key between  $U_i$  and  $U_j$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq N, i \neq j$ ) is computed as  $g^{n_i n_j}$ .

## 3 Overview of Tool Scyther

In this section, we give a brief overview of model checking tool Scyther. We start with the presentation of the adversary model in Subsection 3.1 and the specification language used by Scyther specially in Subsection 3.2. We describe the claim specification and security requirements in Subsection 3.3.

### 3.1 Adversary model of Scyther

The adversary model used by Scyther is predefined and based on Dolev-Yao model [9]. It means that we do not need to formalize an adversary's abilities when we analyze protocols. An adversary (denoted by  $A$ ) in Scyther can eavesdrop messages on the communication channel and can learn from the messages it has got. In the following, we explain how an adversary gains new knowledge.

Assume  $M$  is the adversary's knowledge set and  $f$  is a function to express the relations among different terms in  $M$ .  $k$  can represent both a symmetric and asymmetric key and  $k^{-1}$  is its reverse, while  $k^{-1}$  equals to  $k$  in case of a symmetric key. Let  $(t_i, t_j)$  represents the concatenation of terms  $t_i$  and  $t_j$ .

- $t \in M \Rightarrow M \vdash t$ : if  $t$  is an element of  $M$ ,  $A$  knows  $t$ .
- $M \vdash (t_1, t_2) \Rightarrow \{M \vdash t_1, M \vdash t_2\}$ : if  $A$  knows  $(t_1, t_2)$ , then  $A$  knows both terms  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ .
- $\{M \vdash t_1, M \vdash t_2\} \Rightarrow M \vdash (t_1, t_2)$ : if  $A$  knows both terms  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ ,  $A$  knows  $(t_1, t_2)$ .
- $\bigwedge_{1 \leq i \leq n} M \vdash t_i \Rightarrow M \vdash f(t_1, \dots, t_n)$ : if  $A$  knows all  $t_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) and  $f$  is a public function, then  $A$  can compute the result of function  $f$  with the input  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ .
- $\{M \vdash t, M \vdash k\} \Rightarrow M \vdash \{t\}_k$ : if  $A$  knows message  $t$  and key  $k$ ,  $A$  can compute encrypted message  $\{t\}_k$ .

- $\{M \vdash \{t\}_k, M \vdash k^{-1}\} \Rightarrow M \vdash t$ : if  $A$  knows the encrypted message  $\{t\}_k$  and the decryption key  $k^{-1}$ ,  $A$  can decrypt ciphertext and get plaintext  $t$ .

Therefore, an adversary  $A$  with the above learning abilities can eavesdrop messages on the communication channel and learn from these messages to expand its knowledge. In addition,  $A$  can delete messages on the communication channel, create new messages and insert them into the communication channel.

### 3.2 Specification language of Scyther

Scyther has its own specification language to describe protocols, roles, types of parameters, sending and receiving messages and so on. In the following (Example 1), we will explain the most important parameters and elements that we will use in our protocol formalization, including the definitions of predefined type, **usertype**, symmetric key, asymmetric keys, **hashfunction**, **role**, **protocol**, and message sending and receiving.

#### Example 1:

```

usertype SharedSecret;
hashfunction H;
protocol Example(A,B){
  role A{
    fresh Na : SharedSecret;
    var Nb,Nb' : Nonce;
    send_1(A,B,{Na}k(A,B));
    recv_2(B,A,Nb,Nb');
  };
  role B{
    fresh Nb : Nonce;
    var Na : SharedSecret;
    recv_1(A,B,{Na}k(A,B));
    send_2(B,A,Nb,{H(Nb)}sk(B));
  };
}

```

Example 1 defines a **protocol** named *Example* where two communication parties  $A$  and  $B$  sending messages to each other. A communication party or an agent is declared as a **role**, where they are denoted by  $A$  and  $B$  in Example 1. *SharedSecret* is a user-defined type and it is declared by the term **usertype**, by which we can define different new types. The term **fresh** is a predefined type and is used to declare a value type that only exists in the session where it is generated. Term **nonce** is a predefined type used to describe a constant, for instance,  $Na$  defined within the domain of role  $A$ , and its value remain constant during the whole session. Term **var** is used to define a variable that is usually used to store a received value from the other party. For example,  $Na$  defined inside role  $B$  is a variable to receive the value sent from  $A$  rather than a constance such as  $Na$  defined in role  $A$ . The term **hashfunction** is used to define a hash function [26]. Its definition is usually global and all agents and protocols should have access to it. In Example 1,  $H$  is defined as the type of **hashfunction**, and the hash value of  $Nb$  is computed as

$H(Nb)$ . There are two types of keys, symmetric and asymmetric. A symmetric key defined by  $k(A, B)$  is a long-term value shared between  $A$  and  $B$ , and a message  $Na$  encrypted by it is described as  $\{Na\}k(A, B)$ . Asymmetric keys possessed by an agent  $B$  are a key pair, including a private key ( $sk(B)$ ) and a public key ( $pk(B)$ ). A message  $H(Nb)$  signed by  $B$  can be denoted by  $\{H(Nb)\}sk(B)$ . Message sending and receiving in Scyther can be specified by the pair  $send(s, r, m)$  and  $recv(s, r, m)$ , where  $s$  is a sender,  $r$  is a receiver and  $m$  is a message.

In the following, we use Example 2 to explain how to use a special role construction to express Diffie-Hellman key exchange protocol [27], which was used in the DLP-based protocols to establish session keys in the original protocols proposed in [3]. Compared with the role definition in Example 1, there are three differences in Example 2. First of all, the sender and the receiver are the same, which is denoted as “DH” here. Secondly, the messages sent and received are different. Finally, sending and receiving is expressed by  $send\_!2()$  and  $recv\_!1()$  rather than by  $send\_2()$  and  $recv\_1()$ . By using this special structure, we intend to express that the computation results of  $h(g(r), i)$  and  $h(g(i), r)$  are equal. More similar examples can be found the Scyther manual [1].

**Example 2:**

```

role DH{
  var i, r : Nonce;
  recv_!1(DH, DH, h(g(r), i));
  send_!2(DH, DH, h(g(i), r));
}

```

### 3.3 Events and claims

In this subsection, we describe how to formalize security requirements in Scyther, using **match** and **claim**. The event **match** can be used in two different ways. It can be used to specify equality constrains, for example, the codes after event  $match(p_1, p_2)$  can only be executed if  $p_1$  equals to  $p_2$ . The second usage of **match** is a value assignment, which is similar to “=” in C programming language. Assume  $p$  is a variable and  $v$  is a value, and  $match(p, v)$  means assigning value  $v$  to variable  $p$ .

We use **claim** to specify security requirements **Alive**, **Nisynch**, **secret** and **commitment**. **Alive** is a form of authentication which aims to ensure that an intended communication party ( $R$ ) has executed some events (e.g.,  $claim(R, Alive)$ ). **Nisynch** means that all received messages of  $R$  are indeed sent by the communication partner (sender) and have been received by another communication partner (receiver). It is expressed as  $claim(R, Nisynch)$ . If a term  $rt$  is claimed to be secret,  $rt$  should be kept secret to the adversary. More specifically,  $claim(R, secret, rt)$  means that  $R$  claims that  $rt$  must be unknown to an adversary. If  $rt$  is a session key, we use  $claim(R, SKR, rt)$  to specify it. **Commitment** is a promise of a communication partner to another party. For instance,  $Claim(R, Commit, R', t)$  means that role  $R$  make a promise  $t$  to role  $R'$ . In this paper, we use **commitment** to verify protocols against impersonation attack.

## 4 Formal Analysis of the DLP-based Protocols of Type I

In this section, we describe analysis of the protocol of Type I when the number of group members  $N$  increases from 2 to 4. Later, we discuss the general situation when the number of group number is  $N$  ( $N \geq 3$ ).

#### 4.1 Formalization of security requirements

Assume there are two communication parties, i.e.,  $R$  and  $R'$ . The DLP-based protocols are claimed to satisfy the following security requirements:

- **Mutual authentication** Authentication is way to ensure that a communication party is exchanging messages with an intended party. If authentication is achieved by both communication parties, it is called a mutual authentication. As described in Section 2, the authentication of the authenticator  $U_A$  by  $U_i$  in the DLP-based protocol of Type I can be confirmed if  $h'_i$  equals to  $h_i$ . However, the whole group can be considered authenticated only if  $C'_N$  equals to  $C_N$ . We will use **match** to check the equality of  $C_N$  and  $C'_N$ . In addition, the security property **Alive** will also be required, to make sure that it is the intended communication parties rather than someone else.
- **Implicit key authentication** If a protocol satisfies implicitly key ( $k$ ) authentication [3] and  $R$  claims this security requirement, it means that  $R'$  is the only entity who has the possibility to possess this  $k$ . In this paper, we use  $claim(R, SKR, k)$  and  $claim(R', SKR, k)$  to express it.
- **Secure against impersonation attack** Impersonation attack is an attack where an adversary behaves under the identity of a legitimate communication party. Therefore, this security requirement can be inferred from mutual authentication. As long as mutual authentication holds, we can claim that none of the communication parties is impersonated by an adversary. As discussed before, this can be ensured by checking whether  $h'_i = h_i$  and  $C'_N = C_N$  hold.
- **Secure against passive adversaries** A passive adversary eavesdrops messages on the communication channel, analyzes these messages and tries to learn as much as possible. Compared with an active adversary, the abilities of a passive one are limited. It cannot delete or insert messages into the communication channel, and its main goal is to learn **useful** information from the messages that it has eavesdropped. In the DLP-based protocol of Type I, the most useful information is the group key ( $k$ ) and session keys ( $k$ ), and we can use  $claim(R, SKR, k)$  to express it.
- **Provide forward secrecy and backward secrecy** If a protocol provides forward secrecy, the exposure of keys in current session will not lead to the exposure of keys of future sessions. If a protocol provides backward secrecy, the compromise of keys in current session will not cause the compromise of session keys of past sessions. Since Scyther does not support long term values except for the shared key between two parties, we will not analyze these two security requirements in this paper.

#### 4.2 Specification of difficult problems

In this subsection, we specify difficult mathematical problems in DLP-based protocols of Type I, including Diffie-Hellman key exchange [27], hash functions, Chinese remainder theorem [25], proxy encryption [24], session key computation, MAC and pre-shared values.

- **Diffie-Hellman key exchange (session key computation), hash functions, proxy encryption, MAC** As described in Subsection 3.2, the type **hashfunction** is used to declare a secure hash function, which is a one-way function (Its inverse is infeasible to compute). Therefore, difficult mathematical problems, such as Diffie-Hellman problem used to compute session keys, cryptographic hash functions, proxy encryption and MAC can be considered as one-way hash functions, because an adversary defined by Scyther cannot compute their inverse.

If two parties  $A$  and  $B$  want to establish a session key based on Diffie-Hellman key exchange, they should generate parameters  $a$  and  $b$  first, and send  $g^a$  and  $g^b$  to each other. Then  $A$  and  $B$

compute their session keys as  $(g^b)^a$  and  $(g^a)^b$  respectively. To formalize it, we first declare two **hashfunction**  $g$  and  $h$  and then express the session keys as  $h(g(b), a)$  and  $h(g(a), b)$ . According to Example 2 in Subsection 3.2, we have  $h(g(b), a) = h(g(a), b)$ . Similarly, we use **hashfunction**  $H$ ,  $C$  and  $MAC$  to specify hash functions, proxy encryption and MAC.

- **Chinese remainder theorem (CRT)** In the original protocols [3], parameters  $X$  and  $Y$  are computed by  $X \equiv V_i \pmod{k_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) and  $Y \equiv W_i \pmod{k_i}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) using CRT, where  $k_i$  is a long term value shared between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$ . However, Scyther does not support long-term value except for the symmetric and asymmetric keys. Since only symmetric keys rather than asymmetric keys are shared between two parties, we will use a symmetric key between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$  to simulate this long-term value  $k_i$ .

- **Pre-shared secrets** As described in Subsection 2.3,  $x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq N$ ) is another long-term shared value, and it is used for mutual authentication. Since the symmetric key  $k(U_A, U_i)$  between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$  has already been used to simulate  $k_i$ , we need to formalize  $x_i$  differently. The main idea is as follows. Since  $x_i$  is a long term value used for mutual authentication, it should be enough to assume that  $x_i$  has already been shared between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$  before the mutual authentication. Therefore, we will embed  $x_i$  in  $X$ . Since the parameters in  $V_i$  can only be extracted by  $U_i$ , this assumption is reasonable and realistic.

### 4.3 Specification of the protocols with different group sizes

In our experiments, we have formalized DLP-based protocols when the number of group member is two, three and four to check whether the security requirements of mutual authentication, implicit key authentication, secure against impersonation attack and passive adversaries. In Listing 3, we show part of the specification codes to explain how to formalize the protocol when  $N = 2$ .

Listing 1: Type I protocol specification for 2 group members

```

1 #Type definitions
2 hashfunction g, h;
3 hashfunction C, H, MAC;
4 usertype mtype, gtype, htype, ctype, wtype;
5
6 protocol Group-authentication-DLP(UA, U1, U2)
7 {
8   ...
9   macro v1 = {KG, x1, t1, gm1, h1}k(UA, U1);
10  macro v2 = {KG, x2, t2, gm2, h2}k(UA, U2);
11  macro w1 = {UA, U1, gn2}KG;
12  macro w2 = {UA, U2, gn1}KG;
13  role UA
14  {
15    ...
16    match(gm1, g(m1)); ...
17    match(h1, H(UA, U1, xa, t1)); ...
18    match(MACA11, MAC(KG, UA, U1, U1, U2, v1, r, C0)); ...
19    send_1(UA, U1, U1, U2, v1, r, C0, MACA11);
20    send_2(UA, U2, U1, U2, v2, r, MACA12);
21    recv_4(U2, UA, gn1, gn2, C2, MAC2); ...
22    match(MAC2, MAC2'); ...
23    match(C2, C2');
24    send_5(UA, U1, w1, MACA21);
25    send_6(UA, U2, w2, MACA22);
26    #check security requirements
27    claim(UA, Alive);
28    claim(UA, Nisynch);
29    claim(UA, SKR, KG);
30    claim(UA, SKR, h(gn1, m1));

```

```

31   claim(UA, SKR, h(gn2, m2));
32   }
33   role U1
34   {
35     ...
36     recv_1(UA, U1, U1, U2, v1, r, C0, MACA11); ...
37     match(MACA11, MACA11');
38     match(h1, h1'); ...
39     send_3(U1, U2, gn1, C1, MAC1);
40     recv_5(UA, U1, w1, MACA21); ...
41     match(MACA21, MACA21'); ...
42     claim(U1, Alive);
43     claim(U1, Nisynch);
44     claim(U1, SKR, KG);
45     claim(U1, SKR, h(gm1, n1));
46     claim(U1, SKR, h(gn2, n1));
47   }
48   role U2
49   {
50     ...
51     recv_2(UA, U2, U1, U2, v2, r, MACA12); ...
52     match(MACA12, MACA12');
53     match(h2, h2'); ...
54     send_4(U2, UA, gn1, gn2, C2, MAC2); ...
55     recv_6(UA, U2, w2, MACA22); ...
56     match(MACA22, MACA22'); ...
57     claim(U2, Alive);
58     claim(U2, Nisynch);
59     claim(U2, SKR, KG);
60     claim(U2, SKR, h(gm2, n2));
61     claim(U2, SKR, h(gn1, n2));
62   }
63   role DH{
64     var i, r: Nonce;
65     recv_!1(DH, DH, h(g(r), i));
66     send_!2(DH, DH, h(g(i), r));
67   }
68 }

```

As shown above, the authenticator has to formalize  $v_1$ ,  $v_2$ ,  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  first. They are declared as global such that all roles have access to them. Before sending out messages to users  $U_1$  and  $U_2$ ,  $U_A$  has to prepare parameters  $g^{m_1}$ ,  $g^{m_2}$ ,  $h_1$ ,  $h_2$  for  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , and compute all necessary MACs. All these preparations are finished before line 18. In lines 19 and 20,  $U_A$  sends out the first two messages to  $U_1$  and  $U_2$ .  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  receive these two messages and check the validity of MAC and the quality of  $h_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ , by using event *match*. If these checks are successful, the authentication of  $U_A$  by both  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  succeeds. After checking *MAC* of message one and  $h_1$  from  $U_A$ ,  $U_1$  calculates  $C_1$  and sends the third message to  $U_2$  in line 39.  $U_2$  receives message three, computes  $C_3$  and then sends message four to  $U_A$ . Once  $U_A$  receives the message from  $U_2$  and the message is not tampered, it checks the equality of  $C_N$  and  $C'_N$ . If  $C_N = C'_N$  holds, both  $U_1$  and  $U_2$  are authenticated. In message five and six,  $U_A$  sends out session key parameters to  $U_1$  and  $U_2$ . At last, we check security requirements using five *claims* as described in Subsection 4.1. The experiment result is shown in Fig. 2.

We have also carried out experiments when  $N = 3$  and  $N = 4$  and checked the same security requirements. Results show that all checked security requirements (mutual authentication, implicit key authentication, security against impersonation attack and passive adversaries) are satisfied. Based on these experience, we show how to specify the DLP-based protocols of Type I for arbitrary finite  $N$  ( $N \geq 3$ ) group members in Listing 2.

Claim				Status	Comments	
Group_authentication_DLP	UA	Group_authentication_DLP,UA1	Alive	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,UA2	Nisynch	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,UA3	SKR KG	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,UA4	SKR $h(gn1,m1)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,UA5	SKR $h(gn2,m2)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
U1		Group_authentication_DLP,U11	Alive	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U12	Nisynch	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U13	SKR KG	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U14	SKR $h(gm1,n1)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U15	SKR $h(gn2,n1)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
U2		Group_authentication_DLP,U21	Alive	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U22	Nisynch	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U23	SKR KG	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U24	SKR $h(gm2,n2)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.
		Group_authentication_DLP,U25	SKR $h(gn1,n2)$	Ok	Verified	No attacks.

Figure 2: Experiment results of the DLP-based protocols of Type I for 2 group members

Listing 2: Type I protocol specification for N group members

```

1 protocol Group-authentication-DLP1(UA, U1, ..., UN)
2 {
3   ...
4   role UA
5   {
6     ...
7     send_i(UA, Ui, U1, ..., UN, vi, r, C0, MACAi);
8     ...
9     recv_2N(UN, UA, gn1, ..., gnN, CN, MACAN); ...
10    match(MACN, MACN');
11    match(CN, CN');
12    send_(2N+i)(UA, Ui, wi, MACA2i);
13    ...
14    claim(UA, Alive); ...
15    claim(UA, h(gn1, m1));
16    ...
17    claim(UA, h(gnN, mN));
18  }
19  role U1
20  {
21    ...
22    recv_1(UA, U1, U1, ..., UN, v1, r, C0, MACA11); ...
23    match(h1, h1');

```

```

24  match(MACA11,MAC11'); ...
25  send_(N+1)(U1, U2, gn1, C1, MAC1);
26  recv_(2N+1)(UA, U1, w1, MACA21); ...
27  match(MAC21, MAC21');
28  claim(U1, Alive); ...
29  claim(U1, h(gm1, n1));
30  claim(U1, h(gn2, n1));
31  ...
32  }
33  role Ui #for users from U2 to U(N-1)
34  {
35  ...
36  recv_i(UA, Ui, U1, ..., UN, vi, r, MACAi); ...
37  match(MACA1i, MACA1i');
38  match(hi, hi'); ...
39  recv_(N+i-1)(U(i-1), Ui, gn1, ..., gn(i-1), C(i-1), MAC(i-1)); ...
40  match(MAC(i-1), MAC(i-1)'); ...
41  send_(N+i)(Ui, U(i+1), gn1, ..., gni, Ci, MACi); ...
42  recv_(2N+i)(UA, Ui, wi, MACA2i); ...
43  match(MACA2i, MACA2i');
44  claim(Ui, Alive); ...
45  claim(Ui, h(gmi, ni));
46  ...
47  claim(Ui, h(gn(i-1), ni));
48  claim(Ui, h(gn(i+1), ni));
49  ...
50  }
51  role UN
52  {
53  ...
54  recv_N(UA, UN, U1, ..., U3, vN, r, MACAIN); ...
55  match(MACA1N, MACA1N');
56  match(hN, hN'); ...
57  recv_(2N-1)(U(N-1), UN, gn1, ..., gn(N-1), C(N-1), MAC(N-1)); ...
58  match(MAC(N-1), MAC(N-1)');
59  send_2N(UN, UA, gn1, ..., gnN, CN, MACN); ...
60  recv_3N(UA, UN, wN, MACA2N); ...
61  match(MACA2N, MACA2N');
62  claim(UN, Alive); ...
63  claim(UN, h(gmN, nN));
64  ...
65  claim(UN, h(gm(N-1), nN));
66  }
67  role DH{
68  var i, r: Nonce;
69  recv_!1(DH, DH, h(g(r), i));
70  send_!2(DH, DH, h(g(i), r));
71  }
72 }

```

In Listing 2, we have only described the message flow, MACs verification, equality checking and security requirement verification. However, details on how to prepare parameters for the messages are omitted since they have already been discussed in the case of two group users. The message flow contains three parts:  $N$  messages from  $U_A$  to all  $U_i$  in the user group to deliver  $V_i$ ; messages from  $U_1$  to  $U_2$ ,  $U_2$  to  $U_3$  and so on until the message from  $U_N$  to  $U_A$ . Finally,  $N$  messages from  $U_A$  to  $U_i$  to deliver key parameters to compute session keys. The integrity of every received message must be checked by verifying its MAC and it is realized by the event *match*. In addition, the equality checking of  $h_i$  and  $C_N$  is also expressed by event *match*. Several *claims* are used to express and check the security requirements, such as “Alive” and the secrecy of session keys. The secrecy of session keys analyzes of the group key  $K_G$ , session keys between  $U_A$  and  $U_i$  and the session keys between different group members.

## 5 Formal Analysis of the DLP-based Protocols of Type II

The specification of the DLP-based protocols of Type II is similar to Type I. More specifically, the formalization of difficult problems and all security requirements except for mutual authentication are the same. Compared with the formalization of the DLP-based protocols of Type I, there are mainly two differences. First, when  $U_A$  sends out messages which include  $V_i$  to all group members in protocols of Type I,  $h_i$  is included for later mutual authentication. However, in protocols of Type II,  $U_A$  uses its signature instead of  $h_i$  for its authentication. Accordingly, when group users receives these messages from  $U_A$ , they do not need to check the equality of  $h_i$  to finish the authentication of  $U_A$ . Instead, they verify  $U_A$ 's signature. This property can be provided by the security of PKI based signatures and thus we do not have to check it here. Based on the above differences, we give the specification how to formalize the DLP-based protocols of Type II when the number of group users is  $N$  ( $N \geq 3$ ) (Listing 3).

The presented specification (Listing 3) shows how to specify the DLP-based protocols of Type II when the group members are two, three and four and how to verify the security requirements including mutual authentication, implicit key authentication, security against impersonation attack and passive adversaries. Results (Fig. 3 is the result for two group members.) show that all these four security requirements are satisfied when the number of group members varies from two to four.

Claim	Status	Comments
Group_authentication_DLP UA Group_authentication_DLP,UA1 Commit U1,{{(UA,U1,KG,x1,t1,gm1)sk(UA)}k(UA,U1)}	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA2 Commit U2,{{(UA,U2,KG,x2,t2,gm2)sk(UA)}k(UA,U2)}	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA3 Alive	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA4 Nisynch	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA5 SKR KG	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA6 SKR h(gn1,m1)	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,UA7 SKR h(gn2,m2)	Ok Verified	No attacks.
U1 Group_authentication_DLP,U11 Alive	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U12 Nisynch	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U13 SKR KG	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U14 SKR h(gm1,n1)	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U15 SKR h(gn2,n1)	Ok Verified	No attacks.
U2 Group_authentication_DLP,U21 Alive	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U22 Nisynch	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U23 SKR KG	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U24 SKR h(gm2,n2)	Ok Verified	No attacks.
Group_authentication_DLP,U25 SKR h(gn1,n2)	Ok Verified	No attacks.

Figure 3: Experiment results of the DLP-based protocols of Type II for 2 group members

Listing 3: Type II protocol specification for N group members

```

1 protocol Group-authentication-DLP2(UA, U1, ..., UN)
2 {
3   ...
4   macro vi = {{UA, Ui, KG, xi, ti, gmi}sk(UA)}k(UA, Ui);
5   macro wi = {UA, Ui, gn1, ..., gn(i-1), gn(i+1), ..., gnN}KG;
6   ...
7   role UA
8   {
9     ...
10    claim(UA, Commit, Ui, vi); #different from Type 1
11    send_i(UA, Ui, U1, ..., UN, vi, r, C0, MACA1i);
12    ...
13    recv_2N(UN, UA, gn1, ..., gnN, CN, MACN); ...
14    match(MACN, MACN'); ...
15    send_(2N+1)(UA, U1, w1, MACA21);
16    ...
17    send_3N(UA, UN, wN, MACA2N);
18    claim(UA, Alive); ...
19    claim(UA, h(gn1, m1));
20    ...
21    claim(UA, h(gnN, mN));
22  }
23  role U1
24  {
25    ...
26    recv_1(UA, U1, U1, ..., UN, v1, r, C0, MACA11);
27    match(MACA11, MACA11'); #no need to check h1 here
28    ...
29    send_(N+1)(U1, U2, gn1, C1, MAC1);
30    recv_(2N+1)(UA, U1, w1, MACA21); ...
31    match(MACA21, MACA21'); ...
32    claim(U1, Alive); ...
33    claim(U1, h(gm1, n1));
34    claim(U1, h(gn2, n1));
35    ...
36  }
37  role Ui #for users from U2 to U(N-1)
38  {
39    ...
40    recv_i(UA, Ui, U1, ..., UN, vi, r, MACA1i); ...
41    match(MACA1i, MACA1i'); ... #no need to check hi
42    recv_(N+i-1)(U(i-1), Ui, gn1, ..., gn(i-1), C(i-1), MAC(i-1)); ...
43    match(MAC(i-1), MAC(i-1)'); ...
44    send_(N+i)(Ui, U(i+1), gn1, ..., gni, Ci, MACi); ...
45    recv_(2N+i)(UA, Ui, wi, MACA2i); ...
46    match(MACA2i, MACA2i'); ...
47    claim(Ui, Alive); ...
48    claim(Ui, h(gmi, ni));
49    ...
50    claim(Ui, h(gn(i-1), ni));
51    claim(Ui, h(gn(i+1), ni));
52    ...
53  }
54  role UN
55  {
56    ...
57    recv_N(UA, UN, U1, ..., U3, vN, r, MACAIN); ...
58    match(MACAIN, MACAIN'); ... #no need to check hN
59    recv_(2N-1)(U(N-1), UN, gn1, ..., gn(N-1), C(N-1), MAC(N-1)); ...
60    match(MAC(N-1), MAC(N-1)'); ...
61    send_2N(UN, UA, gn1, ..., gnN, CN, MACN); ...
62    recv_3N(UA, UN, wN, MACA2N); ...
63    match(MACA2N, MACA2N'); ...
64    claim(UN, Alive); ...
65    claim(UN, h(gmN, nN));
66    ...

```

```

67   claim (UN, h(gm(N-1), nN));
68   }
69   ...
70 }

```

## 6 Conclusions

This paper is an extension of the conference paper [20]. In [20], we used the model checking Scyther to analyze DLP-based group authentication protocols proposed in [3] and checked four security requirements, i.e., mutual authentication, implicit key authentication, security against impersonation attack and passive adversaries, for the case of three members in the user group. In this paper, we present analysis of the DLP-based protocols for two and four group members, in addition to three group members. Results show that the protocols satisfy the same four security requirements as for three members. Compared with the work in [20], the most important innovation in this paper is that we have provided general design (Listing 2 and Listing 3), based on which we can construct models that specify DLP-based protocols of both types for the group number of size  $N$  ( $N \geq 3$ ).

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