



# Secure and User Authentication in Online Banking

Karthiga M  
M.E., CSE  
Sri Venkateshwara College of Engineering and  
Technology, Thiruvallur, India  
Email: [karthigacse94@gmail.com](mailto:karthigacse94@gmail.com)

Mrs V Uma  
Associate Professor, CSE  
Sri Venkateshwara College of Engineering and  
Technology Thiruvallur, India  
Email: [umavina@gmail.com](mailto:umavina@gmail.com)

**Abstract**—Online banking is on the up each day with a persistent rise in the number of people using this novel service to carry out their financial transactions. This amplified interest in the use of online banking has consequently raised the concerns over the security. This has raised the need to protect online banking in to guard these transactions as well as establishing secure mechanisms for information exchange that prevent fraud and safeguard the personal data. With the internet now popular among all age groups, online banking has become a necessity. Security mechanisms are, therefore a must for the proper functioning of online banking. In addition to this, all the users are required to manage multiple passwords and devices. Security which are provided by the extensively used systems namely knowledge-based security and token-based security can be easily breached when one reveals his password and his cards are stolen. In order to overcome this, biometrics are used. Banks have started using single biometric systems for financial transactions. In order to provide further security for online banking transactions, the proposed system introduces the use of multiple (face and fingerprint) biometrics for online financial transaction where both are required for authentication of log-in process and one biometric is used for transaction process, thus would help overcome traditional vulnerabilities. Further, this proposed research further explores the matching at the feature level, which of course is a under studied problem. Here in this approach, the feature set extracted from multiple data sources would be fused to create a new feature set to represent the individual. Since the feature set contains better-off information about the fresh biometric data compared to the match score level or the final decision, combination at this level is possible to provide better authentication results. Initial results indicate that the planned technique can lead to large improvement in multimodal matching performance.

**Index Terms**—Unimodal biometrics, multimodal biometrics, OTP.

## I. INTRODUCTION

A number of aspects, including lesser cost of network devices, larger Internet and mobile Internet penetration, availability of devices and increased use of the smartphones have gone into commercialising online banking around the world. The circumstance remains that in spite of the advancements in security technology, vulnerability still exists. Studies show that many phishing and social engineering attacks take place around the world every month. Though there are many threats and vulnerabilities, a very strong authentication mechanism

for customers and transactions will address most fraud-related issues. Apart from incorporating strong authentication mechanism, certain banks limit the number of online banking operations that a customer can perform each day. Biometric technology ensures the robust and safe technique to make secure authentications of persons. A large portion of system breaches are caused by authentication failure, either during the login process or in the transaction process which exist due to the limitations accompanying the existing authentication methods [7]. Current authentication methods are not user oriented and are thus an endangment to users security. In the current world, authentication of online banking users is done using the following methods: [1]

### A. KNOWLEDGE BASED

This method, which is the most popular and common, asks the user to authenticate by entering their User Id and password. The bank safeguards these security by ensuring that the users have a strong password and that are changed at frequent intervals which is assigned to be for few days.

### B. TOKEN BASED

Token based method is currently used in almost all online bank transactions. This method authenticates the users based on the knowledge based identity and something else that they have. This is usually done using OTP (One Time Password), or token devices.

## II. RELATED WORKS

### A. UNIMODAL BIOMETRICS

The unimodal biometric systems rely on the evidence of a single source of information for authentication of person. Though these unimodal biometric systems have many advantages, it has to face with variety problems like Noisy data, Intra class variation, Inter class similarities, on universality, Spoofing etc [6].

### B. TYPES OF MULTIMODAL SYSTEMS

Depending on the traits, sensors and feature sets many different types of multimodal systems are there. These include: [2]



1) Single biometric trait, multiple sensors: Multiple sensors are used to record the same biometric characteristic. The raw data taken from different sensors can then be combined at the feature level or matcher score level to improve the performance of the system. [4] discussed about a method, End-to-end inference to diagnose and repair the data-forwarding failures, our optimization goal to minimize the faults at minimum expected cost of correcting all faulty nodes that cannot properly deliver data. First checking the nodes that has the least checking cost does not minimize the expected cost in fault localization. We construct a potential function for identifying the candidate nodes, one of which should be first checked by an optimal strategy. We propose an efficient inferring approach to the node to be checked in large-scale networks.

2) Multiple biometrics: Multiple biometric traits such as fingerprints and face can be combined. Different sensors are used for each biometric characteristic. The interdependency of the traits ensures a significant improvement in the performance of the system.

3) Multiple units, single biometric traits: Two or more fingers of a single user can be used as a biometric trait. It is an inexpensive way of improving system performance, as it does not require multiple sensors or incorporating additional feature extraction or matching modules. Iris can also be included in this category.

4) Multiple snapshot of single biometric: In this more than one instance of the same biometric is used for the recognition. For e.g. multiple impressions of the same finger or multiple samples of the voice.

5) Multiple matching algorithms for the same biometric: In different methods can be applied to feature extraction and matching of the biometric characteristic.

#### C. FUSION LEVELS IN MULTIMODAL BIOMETRICS

There are three fusion levels in multimodal biometrics: feature level fusion, matching score level fusion and decision level fusion respectively. The three levels of fusion are described as follows: [3]

1) FEATURE LEVEL FUSION: In the feature level fusion, features from different biometric traits are initially processed and the feature vectors are obtained and extracted and combined to form a composite feature vector. This is then combined to form a feature vector that is used for classification.

2) MATCHING SCORE LEVEL FUSION: In matching score level fusion, individual matching score is found based on various biometric traits and these matching scores are gathered to make the classification.

3) DECISION LEVEL FUSION: In decision level fusion, each biometric traits are captured and features are extracted from the captured traits. The final decision of accept or reject based on the combination of the outcomes from different biometric modalities.

#### D. MATCHING ALGORITHMS

Based on the pattern of the matching algorithm, the matching speed can vary. In a biometric recognition system, the individuality corresponding to the probe is classically determined by matching it against the templates of all individualities in the gallery. [5]

#### E. FINGERPRINT MATCHING TECHNIQUES

For accurate personal identification, considering all the currently used biometric techniques, fingerprint authentication system is the widely used and appropriate. The existing popular fingerprint matching techniques can be broadly classified into three categories depending on the types of features used: [4]

- 1) Minutiae-based:
- 2) Correlation-based:
- 3) Euclidean distance-based:

### III.

#### PROPOSED SYSTEM DESIGN

In the proposed system, the online banking system ensures robust and secure authentication mechanism by using the multimodal biometrics. Multimodal system including Fingerprint and face are used for the login process. As the user can occur at any point of transaction process, fingerprint authentication is again done during transaction process. Efficient encryption and decryption methods are used for providing the security of data transmitted and storing the data in the database. Thus the proposed system ensures improved security in online banking by using the multimodal biometric system.

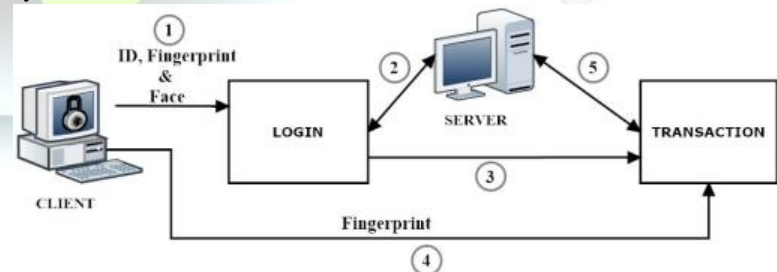


Figure 1.  
High level design

Figure 1 describes the overall scenario in the proposed system. The planned system consists of a client system which is the user doing the online transaction. The bank server encloses the database with which the details have to be compared. The user can login with the user ID, and recognising self with fingerprint and face. These details are compared with the



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database in the server. Once the login is successful, the user

can make the necessary transaction by authenticating with the fingerprint once again. The details are again compared with the server.

The proposed system uses a multimodal biometrics system. It consists of two main modules namely,

A. Enrolment module

Here, the user has to register at the bank with the necessary details. This includes the biometric traits as well as other







information needed for the authentication.

#### B. Authentication module

Here, the user has to authenticate him/herself using the multimodal traits used for the login process and unimodal biometric, used for transaction process. The Authentication module consists of two main processes.

1) Login Process: Here, the user has to login using the user ID followed by the recognition of face and fingerprint for authentication. Once the user logs into the system, the user can only view the account details.

2) Transaction Process: Here, the user has to again authenticate him/herself using the fingerprint authentication. Only when the user authenticates with the fingerprint details, the transaction can be done.

The authentication mechanism includes the processes at both the client and server side. The client side process includes capturing the finger and face image, followed by feature extraction and fusion of the feature extracted, encrypting the Euclidean distance calculated and sending it to the server. This is depicted in Figure 2.

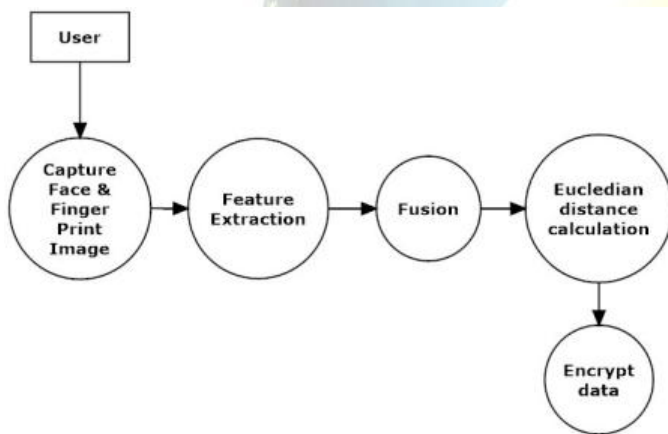


Figure 2.  
Client side

Figure 3 illustrates the server side process. The server side process includes decrypting the encrypted data and comparing the stored data in the database.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Today, the authentication mechanism in online banking includes two-factor authentication which is the token-based authentication mechanism. This needs an external device to dynamically authenticate the user. However, the chances of the device being misplaced or lost can cause a compromise to the

bank account transaction. There are many vulnerabilities still concerning this area. So a robust and secure authentication mechanism to be used in online banking is essential. This can be achieved by using multimodal biometrics. There are

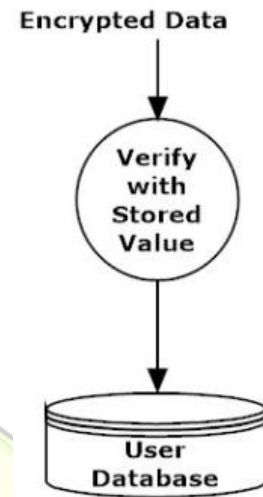


Figure 3.  
Server side

various spoofing attacks that can occur while using unimodal biometrics. Thus multimodal biometrics ensures an efficient method for authentication in online transaction. Certain threats including hacking, phishing etc. can also be dispensed when using multimodal biometrics.

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