UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

Defense of a Master’s Thesis
Tradeoffs in Protocol Designs for Collaborative Authentication
by
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For the MScS degree in Computer Science & Engineering

Authentication is a crucial tool used in access control mechanisms to verify a user’s identity. Collaborative Authentication (co-authentication) is a newly proposed authentication scheme designed to improve on traditional token authentication. Co-authentication works by using multiple user devices as tokens to collaborate in a challenge and authenticate a user request on single device.

This thesis adds two contributions to the co-authentication project. First, a detailed survey of applications that are suitable for adopting co-authentication is presented. Second, an analysis of tradeoffs between varying protocol designs of co-authentication is performed to determine whether, and how, any designs are superior to other designs.

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THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

Examining Committee

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