An Efficient, Accountable, and Privacy-Preserving Access Control Scheme for Internet of Things in a Sharing Economy Environment

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Abstract—The Internet of Things (IoT) has set off a new information technology revolution due to its convenience and efficiency. An IoT enables sharing economy, as more people are willing to share their own things (mostly mobile devices) to leverage the under-used value. In such a situation where owners and users are often not familiar with each other, an efficient access control mechanism is needed to deal with the trust issue and support service accountability to help owners accurately get their deserved profits. Besides, in such a sharing economy environment, the mobility of most shared IoT devices and their privacy preserving should also be taken into account. Regrettably, the existing schemes cannot achieve all of the aforementioned goals simultaneously and only few schemes were implemented to evaluate the claimed performance. In this article, we propose an efficient, accountable, and privacy-preserving access control solution for IoT in a sharing economy environment. In our scheme, we utilize the one-time signature to achieve anonymous authentication and let gateways store the signatures as service credentials for accountability. Meanwhile, we adopt the identitybased authentication to exclude malicious gateways and shared devices from the system and design a specialized protocol for those devices moving with the users. We conduct a detailed security analysis to show that our scheme can effectively defend against potential attacks, and also implement a prototype system to demonstrate that our design is indeed an efficient one.

Index Terms—Anonymous authentication, mobility, privacypreserving access control, service accountability, sharing economy.

I. INTRODUCTION

INTERNET of Things (IoT) has brought us into a highly connected age in recent years, in which intelligent devices

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and their users are connected via Internet [1]-[3] and wireless networks [4], [5]. An IoT is actually changing the method of man-machine interaction and people's lifestyle through the technologies of intelligence, automation, etc., e.g., autonomous driving [6], [7] and smart grid [8]–[11]. Meanwhile, sharing economy is developing rapidly and is bringing lots of business opportunities. Mastercard reported that only the total addressable market of shared transportation has reached \$72 billion and it is predicted to increase to \$350 billion in 2020 [12]. To adapt to the sharing economy trend, many technology companies, such as Bird's shared electric skateboards [13], are sparing no effort in popularizing the shared IoT devices. It has been the trend that more and more individuals are willing to share their assets to earn some profits. Most companies or individuals provide their services using their own platforms and it brings in much trouble for users to install all kinds of platforms. So there have been some big companies, such as Alibaba and Microsoft Azure, providing a united platform for all kinds of shared IoT services, and it largely improves users' experience. The combination of sharing economy and IoT has also drawn much attention from researchers in academia [14]–[16]. However, the involved security problems have been rarely investigated. Due to the higher exposure of the IoT devices in the sharing economy environment, they are much more vulnerable than those in the traditional scenarios, such as smart home, smart healthcare, and so on. So, the security challenges for IoT in a sharing economy environment are critical issues and access control is the most fundamental one of them.

The question we need to answer is: what is the difference between the IoT in traditional scenarios and the IoT in sharing economy environments? The main difference is that IoT devices in traditional scenarios are not employed for profits, while in the sharing economy environment, people usually lease their IoT devices to earn profits and users must pay the owners for using the devices. Also, owners of IoT devices in traditional scenarios are barely concerned about the usage status of their devices. But owners in the sharing economy environment would like to know some feedback information (like the peak period of usage) to improve their services. Based on these observations, access control for the IoT in sharing economy environments should consider service accountability and information feedback, in addition to device mobility, without exposing users' privacy.

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Various access control schemes have been proposed for wireless sensor networks, which mainly include list-based [17] and role-based access control [18], [19] methods. But they are not scalable in the IoT environment because of the massive number of edge devices. To better adapt them to the IoT environment, two different types of access control methods have been proposed: 1) attribute-based encryption (ABE-based) and 2) capability based. In ABE-based solutions [20]-[22], to ensure the confidentiality, the data collected by the devices are encrypted by ABE before they are sent out and only authorized people or devices can decrypt the data successfully. ABE-based approaches enable fine-grained access control, but they bring in too much computation overhead to the resourceconstrained IoT devices due to several heavy pairing related operations. In capability-based schemes [23]-[25], authorized users can get a token from a central point (e.g., cloud servers) before requesting services and they can show the granted token to IoT devices or gateways to get services. However, user identity is needed to be included in the tokens, and this information will be exposed to the verifier endangering users' privacy. Besides, the direct use of tokens to conduct service accounting will also leak users' privacy to IoT device providers.

The data transmitted among all kinds of IoT entities in a sharing economy environment contain a wealth of information related to the user. But, since the wireless links in IoT are exposed, it is effortless for attackers to get users' private information and even monitor user activities (e.g., when users use sharing bikes to go to work and which path they chose to take) by eavesdropping [26]. So, privacy protection should be taken into account and well addressed. A few solutions have been proposed to preserve users' privacy [17], [27]–[29]. Unfortunately, these proposed schemes make it hard for IoT device providers to get useful feedback information. So these solutions cannot meet the security demands in the sharing economy environment.

Motivated by these observations, in this article, we propose an efficient, accountable, and privacy-preserving access control for IoT in the sharing economy environment. In our scheme, we utilize the identity-based authentication to make gateways only discover services provided by legitimate IoT devices. We also further make decentralized gateways authenticate users directly through one-time signatures (OTSs) [30] generated by users to keep anonymous rather than leveraging a central server. Even when the server breaks down, our system can still work properly. Moreover, for service accounting, these signatures can be used as trusted service credentials, but it is irrational for the central server to verify each single signature due to its huge overhead. Therefore, we make gateways aggregate collected signatures regularly and the central server can only verify the aggregated signatures to check the validity of the credentials received from gateways. Our contributions can be summarized as follows.

 We propose a secure and efficient access control scheme for IoT in sharing economy environments. Our scheme can support mobility and service accountability, and the operations in the processes would not affect users' experience much.

- 2) We introduce the OTS to accomplish anonymous authentication and make services accountable by aggregating OTSs. Besides, IoT device providers improve their services by collecting other feedback information, provided they cannot get any user's privacy information.
- 3) We thoroughly analyze the security strength of our scheme and implement a prototype system to evaluate the performance of the main phases in our system.

The remainder of this article is organized as follows. Section II reviews the related work. Section III describes our system model, security assumptions, design goals, and preliminaries, while Section IV presents the details of our proposed scheme. Sections V and VI show the security analysis and performance evaluation, respectively. Finally, in Section VII, we conclude this article.

II. RELATED WORK

Since the beginning of the 21st century, access control has caused widespread concern in the field of wireless sensor networks. The intuitive thought is maintaining an access control list (ACL) at the sensors on the owner's side, similar to the work in [17] proposed by He *et al.*, to decide who can access a certain sensor. Afterward, to ease the privilege management in ACL-based schemes, role-based access control schemes were proposed [18], [19]. In these schemes, the sensor owner assigns privileges to a role instead of a person, which is more efficient. However, due to the huge number of IoT devices, managing the privileges becomes more intractable, so these methods cannot be used in IoT directly.

To better solve the access control problem in IoT, many new methods have been proposed. ABE is one of the popular methods widely used in many network scenerios [31]-[34], including IoT. Phuong et al. [20] proposed puncturable ABE to make sure that the sender can revoke the compromised IoT devices' decryption capability for the past messages in time. Zhang et al. [21] proposed to hide some sensitive attributes in access policies of CP-ABE to protect privacy and add a decryption test to improve the decryption efficiency. As shown in [22], the direct use of ABE in IoT indeed brings in much computation overhead because ABE needs to conduct heavy pairing-related operations for several times. Therefore, it is unfriendly and unadaptable to resource-constrained IoT devices. Besides, the problem to reduce the computation overhead in IoT devices without increasing much communication overhead is not well dealt with in these schemes.

The capability-based access control is another popular type of methods because of its flexibility that can meet various requirements of different IoT architectures. This type of scheme uses a central point (e.g., backend in [23], owner in [25], and specialized server in [24]) to authenticate users and assign tokens to users. Users request services with the received tokens, and IoT devices or gateways verify the tokens to decide whether to provide services. However, since the tokens in these schemes always contain private information (such as user identity, user privileges, etc.), and verifier can easily get these private information, so these schemes cannot satisfy the security demands considering privacy protection.

In the IoT scenario, the data are produced when the users are using IoT devices and always contain users' behavior, identity, and some other critical private information. Meanwhile, because of the exposed and dynamic environment, these private information is easily compromised by malicious attackers [35]. Thus, privacy preserving in such an IoT environment has become a vital issue [17], [27]–[29], [36]. Some schemes try to design a privacy-preserving protocol for IoT using temporary identity [27], hash function [29], or ring signature [17]. Aitzhan and Svetinovic [28] proposed a solution to ensure privacy preserving via multisignatures and blockchain. However, these schemes are proposed for specific IoT applications, such as smart home and smart healthcare, which is greatly different from the IoT in a sharing economy environment. Specifically, they are incapable of service accountability, information feedback, and device mobility support. The differential privacy and the homomorphic encryption are also two important cryptographic techniques to provide privacy preserving in many network scenarios [8], [9], [37], [38], which are mainly used for privacy protection of private data. Some other privacy-enhancing techniques, e.g., trusted execution environment, are also leveraged to achieve data privacy preservation [10], [39], [40].

III. MODEL, ASSUMPTION, GOALS, AND PRELIMINARIES A. System Model

1) Components: Our system model is similar to the model proposed in smart homes [27], [41] with minor modification. As shown in Fig. 1, our system is mainly composed of users, gateways, a central server, and IoT device providers with their shared IoT devices.

Users connect with gateways to obtain IoT services through the subject devices (e.g., smartphones). We assume that the subject devices have a considerable degree of computation and storage capability (e.g., 2.3-GHz CPU and 64-GB ROM).

Gateways are connected with a large number of shared IoT devices. They are responsible for authenticating users through the signatures received from users, aggregating the signatures as the trusted credentials, and sending commands to the connected devices. Note that at first IoT device providers can pay some institutions at first for gateway provision to run the fundamental services. In order to improve the service, individuals are also allowed to provide gateways for helping shared IoT services subsequently. For increasing the motivation of providing gateways, IoT device providers need to give individuals some incentive in economic according to the number of signatures that the gateways have helped authenticate. In such a way, gateways provided by institutions and individuals can cover a large area to enable users to enjoy the services whenever and wherever they want to. We assume that the gateways have constrained computation capability but sufficient storage capability (e.g., 1.2-GHz CPU and tens of GB ROM).

A central server is a united platform for all of the IoT device providers like Alibaba, and it is responsible for key management and fund management. Users can buy tokens from the central server to obtain IoT services and IoT device



Fig. 1. System model.

providers can get their profits from it according to the number/time of services their devices provide. Note that there are two kinds of IoT devices according to their charge ways: 1) pay-per-unit-time (e.g., shared smart cars) and 2) payper-use (e.g., shared smart printers). For simplicity, we call pay-per-unit-time shared IoT devices *type A devices* and call pay-per-use shared IoT devices *type B devices* in this article. Besides, the IoT device providers provide shared IoT devices. These devices are often resource constrained with a weaker computation capability (e.g., 1.2-GHz CPU or weaker).

2) Communication Model: Users' subject devices and shared IoT devices can communicate with gateways through wireless links in many ways (e.g., WiFi, Bluetooth, ZigBee, etc.), and they can also connect with a central server by WiFi, GPRS, etc. Gateways and IoT device providers communicate with the central server through wired links (e.g., Ethernet). Besides, we assume that there exist secure channels between gateways/shared IoT devices and the central server.

B. Security Assumption

We assume that users are untrusted in our system and they will try to pay as little money as possible to get as much services. The IoT device providers and their shared IoT devices are assumed to be rational but greedy. On the one hand, big IoT device companies (e.g., ofo and SPIN) will not risk providing malicious IoT devices that cannot work to maintain their good reputations. On the other hand, some individuals may provide malicious devices to get some profits.

Unlike the traditional IoT environment, in this article, we assume that gateways are semitrusted. They will follow the predesignated protocol faithfully. But to earn more profits, they may claim more services they provided by forging more signatures which are the accounting credentials. Besides, they may be curious about the privacy of users, e.g., who prefers which kind of coffee, etc. Finally, the central server is assumed to be trusted, and it can be a committee composed of some big IoT device providers in a real-world scenario.

C. Design Goals

In this article, we would like to design an efficient and secure access control scheme for IoT in sharing economy environments with the following goals.

- 1) *Secure Access Control:* The proposed scheme should conduct access control accurately and block unauthorized users outside of the system. Also, malicious gateways and devices cannot join the system.
- 2) Privacy Preservation: Our solution needs to ensure that malicious attackers are unable to infer any users' privacy information, such as user identity, user preference, a user moving track, etc. While preserving privacy, shared IoT device providers can get information which can be used to improve their services normally.
- 3) Efficient Service Accountability: Our proposed approach should provide a service accounting mechanism in which the central server can efficiently know the exact amount of services offered by IoT device providers so that providers and gateways are able to get their profits accurately.
- Mobility Support: Our scheme is required to address the trust and accounting problem brought by the situation where shared IoT device moves with users in the sharing economy environment.

D. Preliminaries

From the security perspective, the security of our scheme is based on the intractability of the discrete logarithm problem (DLP), the computation Diffie–Hellman (CDH) assumption, and the divisible CDH (DCDH) assumption on the multiplicative cyclic group G_1 [42].

Definition 1 (DLP): The DLP is, given $g, h = g^x \in G_1$, to compute $x = \log_{a} h$.

Definition 2 (CDH Assumption): Given $(g^a, g^b \in G_1)$ for unknown $a, b \in Z_q^*$, it is infeasible to compute g^{ab} .

Definition 3 (DCDH Assumption): Given $(g^a, g^b \in G_1)$ for unknown $a, b \in Z_q^*$, it is infeasible to compute $g^{a/b}$.

IV. PROPOSED SCHEME

A. System Overview

Fig. 2 shows an overview of our system. As shown in this figure, in our system, entities, including users, gateways, and shared IoT devices, are required to register to the central server for getting corresponding secret keys. Since in a sharing economy environment, all these three entities cannot be fully trusted, thus before communicating with other entities, they must authenticate the communication peers first. Specifically, in the service discovery phase, we utilize an identity-based mutual authentication protocol to keep malicious gateways and shared IoT devices outside of the system. Besides, in the service request phase, we make gateways and users show identity-based signature (IBS) and OTS, respectively, to identify themselves.



Fig. 2. System overview.

Moreover, we design a special protocol (i.e., service termination) for the situation that shared IoT devices move with users to a new place. To record the exact amount of OTSs authenticated by gateways, in the service accounting phase, gateways aggregate the signatures they collect regularly, and it is easy for a central server to conduct service accounting by verifying the aggregated signatures. To let the central server improve its services in time without exposing users' privacy, gateways send device-related information to the central server regularly. Then, to make our system more robust, the centralized point (e.g., a central server) is not involved in the authentication process to users.

Next, we will describe the details of our system in eight phases: 1) system initialization; 2) entity registration; 3) service discovery; 4) service request; 5) command execution; 6) service termination; 7) service accounting; and 8) entity revocation.

B. System Initialization

In this step, the central server initializes the system and generates the public and private parameters as follows.

- 1) Generate a bilinear map group system $S = (q, G_1, G_T, e(., .))$, where G_1 and G_T are multiplicative cyclic groups of the same order q. Randomly select generators $g_1, h \in G_1$ and set $g_2 = e(g_1, g_1)$.
- 2) Select a random master private key $s \in Z_q^*$ and compute the corresponding public key $\lambda = g_1^s$.
- 3) Choose several cryptographic hash functions $H_1 : \{0, 1\}^* \to \{0, 1\}^*$ and $H_2 : \{0, 1\}^* \to Z_q^*$.
- Publish the system public parameters as: (S, g₁, g₂, h, λ, H₁, H₂, E(.)), where E(.) is a symmetric encryption algorithm.

C. Entity Registration

In this step, gateway i (with its identity ID_i) and shared IoT device j (with its identity ID_j) need to send their identities to the central server for registration. For gateways, the central server computes

$$PK_i = H_2(ID_i || TS_i), SK_i = g_1^{1/(s+H_2(ID_i || TS_i))}$$

where TS_i is the current timestamp. Then, the central server randomly selects $r_i \in Z_a^*$ and computes

$$R_i = g_1^{r_i}, A_i = r_i + sH_2(\mathrm{ID}_i || TS_i || R_i)$$

Finally, gateway *i* can get its public keys PK_i and private keys (SK_i, R_i, A_i) from the central server.

For each shared IoT device j, the central server computes

$$PK_i = H_2(ID_i||TS_i), SK_i = g_1^{1/(s+H_2(ID_i||TS_i))}$$

and generates a signed profile_j, which states the provided services of IoT device *j*, the provider to which the devices belong, etc. Then, the central server sends the public key PK_j , the private key SK_j , and the signed profile_j to the IoT device. To be noted, as the existence of the timestamp TS_j , which represents the time when implementing key generation, the central server should periodically update secret keys for legitimate gateways and shared IoT devices. It is outside the scope of this article, so we will not cover the details of this.

In the system, we use OTSs as accounting credentials. Secret keys associated with OTSs can be used only once, and the central server must generate massive secret keys in advance. To manage the massive secret keys, the central server assigns an *l*-bit identifer *pid* to each pair of secret keys and utilizes a bitmap to record the unused *pids*. Suppose there are several charge choices (e.g., \$1, \$5, and \$10). Users can pay money for requesting secret keys according to the charge choices with a certain exchange ratio (e.g., \$1 for requesting five keys). The central server can generate secret keys for different charge choices in advance. First, it generates an original key pair (UPK_0 , USK_0) as follows:

$$USK_0 = \left(b_i \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} Z_q^*, c_i \stackrel{R}{\leftarrow} \{0, 1\}^{l_r}\right)_{i=1}^m$$
$$UPK_0 = \left(v_i \leftarrow g_1^{b_i} h^{c_i}\right)_{i=1}^m$$

where l_r represents the length of c_i , and m is the number of b_i/c_i pairs, which is related to the signature generation for allowed length of messages. Then, the central server further generates a set of keys USK_i for $i \in [1, m]$, as shown in Fig. 3, we can get

$$b_{i,\kappa} = H_2(b_{i,\kappa-1}), \ c_{i,\kappa} = H_1(c_{i,\kappa-1}), \ \kappa \in [2,n]$$
 (1)

where $b_{i,1} = H_2(b_i)$ and $c_{i,1} = H_1(c_i)$. Then it computes all the corresponding UPK_i and generates an unused *pid* (*pid_j*) to associate with each UPK_i/USK_i pair. To be noted that the parameter *n* is determined by charge choice and exchange ratio. For example, if the charge choice is \$5 and exchange ratio is \$1 for five keys, *n* is 24.

The central server only stores USK_0 and all the corresponding *pids* (e.g., *pid*₀, *pid*₂, ..., *pid*_n), called *manifest*, for reducing the storage overhead. In order to access IoT devices, when user *k* pays some money to request a specific number of secret keys, the central server will select an appropriate *manifest* from the storage and send it to the user *k*. After receiving the manifest, the user can recover the remaining secret keys as (1). Besides, the central server needs to send all the records < pid, UPK > to the legitimate gateways and update these records every day.

D. Service Discovery

To join the system, a shared IoT device sends its authentication request to the nearby gateway to register their services,

$$USK_{n} = (b_{i,n}, c_{i,n}) \quad UPK_{n} \quad pid_{n}$$

$$H_{2} \qquad H_{1} \qquad \cdots \qquad \cdots$$

$$H_{2} \qquad H_{1} \qquad \cdots \qquad \cdots$$

$$H_{2} \qquad H_{1} \qquad pid_{1}$$

$$USK_{1} = (b_{i,1}, c_{i,1}) \quad UPK_{1} \qquad pid_{1}$$

$$H_{2} \qquad H_{1} \qquad pid_{0} \qquad \text{Manifest}$$

Fig. 3. Key generation.



Fig. 4. Service discovery process.

and then a mutual authentication will be conducted between the IoT device and the gateway, which is shown in Fig. 4. In this article, we utilize an identity-based mutual authentication protocol, like the one in [43], to conduct mutual authentication.

The details of communications between the shared IoT device j and gateway i are as follows.

- S1: IoT Device $j \rightarrow$ Gateway *i*: {*y*, *TS_j*, profile_{*j*}}. The shared IoT device *j* randomly chooses $\alpha \in Z_q^*$ and computes $x_1 = H_2(\alpha || SK_j)$. Then, it computes $y = (g_1^{H_2(\text{ID}_i || TS_j)} \lambda)^{x_1}$, and then sends *y* and profile_{*j*} to the gateway *i*.
- S2: Gateway $i \rightarrow$ IoT Device $j: \{k_2, \beta\}$. Gateway i chooses a random number $\delta \in Z_q^*$ and computes $x_2 = H_2(\delta || SK_i)$. Then it generates the secret key sk by computing

$$k_1 = e(y, SK_i) = g_2^{x_1}$$

$$sk = H_2(k_1^{x_2}) = H_2(g_2^{x_1x_2}).$$
 (2)

Afterward, the gateway computes $k_2 = g_2^{x_2}$, $\beta = H_1(sk||k_1||k_2||\text{ID}_i||y)$ and sends them to the IoT device *j* to make it generate the secret key and authenticate the gateway.

S3: IoT Device $j \rightarrow$ Gateway *i*: {*S*}. IoT device *j* obtains the shared secret key by computing $sk = H_2(k_2^{x_1}) =$ $H_2(g_2^{x_1x_2})$. Then, it computes $k_1 = g_2^{x_1}, \beta' =$ $H_1(sk||k_1||k_2||\text{ID}_i||y)$ and authenticates the gateway by checking whether $\beta' = \beta$. Finally, it computes S = $SK_j^{x_1+sk}$, and then sends it to the gateway and stores $<\text{ID}_i, sk>$.



Fig. 5. Service request and command execution process.

S4: Gateway *i* checks whether $e(S, g_1^{H_2(ID_j||TS_j)}\lambda) = k_1 \times g_2^{sk}$. Then, the gateway verifies the signature of profile_j and store the related information as $\langle ID_j, sk, profile_j \rangle$.

E. Service Request

As shown in the left side of Fig. 5, in the request phase, users send OTSs to gateways to show that they are the authorized users who have paid for the services. But before users sending signatures, they need to authenticate gateways to prevent malicious gateways stealing from their signatures without helping them get corresponding services. Here, we use an IBS to let gateways show their legitimate identities. The request process is as follows.

- S1: User $k \to$ Gateway *i*: {Squery, η }. User *k* selects a random number $\eta \in Z_q^*$ and sends service query message and the random number η to the gateway.
- S2: Gateway $i \to \text{User } k$: $\{\sigma, \theta, SL\}$. The gateway selects two random numbers $d \in Z_q^*$ and $\theta \in \{0, 1\}^{n'}$ with n'satisfying $C_m^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor} > 2^{n'}$. Then it computes $D_i = g_1{}^d, z =$ $d + A_i \times H_2(\text{ID}_i || TS_2 || \eta || \theta || R_i || D_i)$ and gets the IBS $\sigma = \langle R_i, D_i, z, TS_2 \rangle$. Finally, the gateway sends σ, θ , and *SL* to the user, where *SL* is the available services list consisting of shared IoT devices' identities, the type of the services, the providers to which they belong, etc.
- S3: User $k \to \text{Gateway } i$: $\{E_{sk'}(cmd, \text{parm}, \text{ID}_j, pid), \sigma', R'\}$. The user verifies the signature σ by checking $g_1^z = D_i \times (R_i \times \lambda^{H_2(\text{ID}_i||TS_1||R_i)})^{H_2(\text{ID}_i||TS_2||\eta||\theta||R_i||D_i)}$. If the verification passes, it is reasonable for the user to believe that the gateway is legitimate and it stores the tuple (σ, θ, η) . Then, he/she can generate an OTS by using Algorithm 1. Afterward, the user selects a random number $r' \in Z_q^*$ and computes $R' = g_1^{r'}, sk' = D^{r'}$. Finally, he/she chooses the service according to SL and sends the encrypted command. The *cmd* in it is the command that the user wants to execute, like turn on the machine, which can be further clarified by the parameter *parm*. For example, when the user wants to get shared coffee

Algorithm 1: OTS Generation

Input: Received random number θ , the security parameter *n*, unused secret key $USK = (b_i, c_i)$.

Output: A valid signature.

1 $temp = ka = \lfloor m/2 \rfloor;$ 2 for i=1 to m do 3 | if $\theta > C_{n-i}^{ka}$ then 4 | $\epsilon_{temp-ka+1} = b_i, \ \rho_{temp-ka+1} = c_i;$ 5 | | $\theta = \theta - C_{n-i}^{ka}, \ ka = ka - 1;$ 6 | end 7 end 8 $\epsilon = \epsilon_1 ||\epsilon_2|| \dots ||\epsilon_{temp};$ 9 $\rho = \rho_1 ||\rho_2|| \dots ||\rho_{temp};$ 10 return $\sigma' = (\epsilon, \rho)$

machine service, the *parm* here can be the type of coffee he/she would like to drink.

S4: Gateway *i* computes $sk' = R'^d$ and decrypts the encrypted command. Then, it verifies the signature by using Algorithm 2 and stores ($\epsilon_{\text{total}}, \rho_{\text{total}}, pid, \theta$) for future accounting. Meanwhile, it maintains a counting table to record the number of signatures received for different shared IoT providers and it increases the number by 1 for the corresponding provider.

F. Command Execution

The right side of Fig. 5 shows the process of command execution. In this phase, the gateway will help the user get the service by encrypting the command through the secret key shared with the shared IoT device. The gateway finds the shared secret key sk with device i and it communicates with the device as follows.

- S1: Gateway $i \rightarrow$ Device *j*: $E_{sk}(cmd, parm, TS)$. Gateway *i* generates timestamp *TS* and implements encryption over message {*cmd*, parm, *TS*}. Then, send the encrypted message to device *j*.
- S2: Device $j \rightarrow$ Gateway *i*: $E_{sk}(fbac, TS)$. After the device received the message, it first decrypts the message

Input: The random number θ , the security parameter m, l_r , the secret key UPK with identity pid. Output: Valid or Invalid. 1 $temp = ka = \lfloor m/2 \rfloor;$ 2 $\epsilon_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^{ka} \epsilon_i, \ \rho_{\text{total}} = \sum_{i=1}^{ka} \rho_i;$ 3 **if** $0 \le \rho_{\text{total}} \le m(2^{l_r} - 1)/2$ **then** $temp_1 = g_1^{\epsilon_{\text{total}}} h^{\rho_{\text{total}}}, temp_2 = 1;$ 4 for i=1 to m do 5 $\begin{aligned} \mathbf{if} \ \theta > C_{n-i}^{ka} \ \mathbf{then} \\ | \ temp_2 = temp_2 \times v_{temp-i+1}; \\ \theta = \theta - C_{n-i}^{ka}, \ ka = ka - 1; \end{aligned}$ 6 7 8 9 end end 10 if $temp_1 == temp_2$ then 11 return Valid; 12 13 end 14 end 15 return Invalid;

> and verifies whether timestamp TS_3 is in a permitted time period. Then it executes the corresponding service and returns some feedback information $(E_{sk}(fbac, TS))$, where fbac can be the current status feedback information, such as normal, damaged, the remaining power, etc.

Finally, the gateway sends the feedback information collected to the corresponding IoT device providers regularly. This can help IoT device providers know the status of their devices, the peak period of usage, and the popular locations where the services are provided so that providers can improve their services in time according to this information.

G. Service Termination

In the traditional IoT scenario, the whole process will end when the command execution is finished. However, in a sharing economy environment, most IoT devices move with the users and the users may return them back at a new place. Therefore, an additional phase service termination is proposed to deal with mobility.

1) For *type B devices*, it will be terminated automatically once it finishes the service (e.g., a shared smart printer finishes printing a paper).

2) For *type A devices*, we design a service termination protocol, which is illustrated in Fig. 6. In the protocol, the user needs to terminate the device on his/her own initiative. When the user moves to a new place connecting with a new gateway to return the devices back, the communication process to be performed is as follows.

S1: User $k \to$ New Gateway i': Rtn, (σ, θ, η) , ID_i , η' . Here, η' is a random number in Z_q^* , ID_i is the identity of the original gateway, and (σ, θ, η) is the tuple that the user stored in the service request phase.

- S2: Gateway $i' \rightarrow$ User k: σ_{new} , num, $(\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_{num})$. New gateway i' first verifies the signature σ . Then, the new gateway computes the service time that the user enjoys the service $\Delta T = TS_3 TS_2$, where TS_3 is the current timestamp and TS_2 is the timestamp in σ , and *num* is the number of OTSs the user needs to give according to the charging standard. The new gateway generates a signature σ_{new} , like the *request* phase using η' , and selects *num* random numbers ($\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_{num}$).
- S3: User \rightarrow Gateway i': R'_{new} , $(\sigma'_1, \ldots, \sigma'_{num})$, σ' , $E_{sk'_{new}}(\text{ID}_{j'}, cmd, \text{parm}, pid_1, \ldots, pid_{num})$. The user verifies σ_{new} and generates corresponding number of OTSs using $(\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_{num})$. Then, he/she generates the secret key, like step 4 in the service request phase using R'_{new} , and sends the OTS generated in service request phase σ' , new *num* OTSs, and encrypted termination command to the gateway.
- S4: After receiving the message, the new gateway first verifies σ' using θ , and then it verifies other received signatures. If the verification passes, it sends a successful message to the user.

Then, the gateway conducts the mutual authentication with device j' like the steps in the service discovery phase and sends an encrypted termination command message to the device. *S5–S9* in Fig. 6 are the detailed statements of these processes. Besides, it records (ID_{*i*}, ID_{*j'*}, ID_{*i'*}, and ΔT) and sends them to IoT providers regularly, so that the providers can get the information about the popular services and locations where users return IoT devices back.

H. Service Accounting

Gateways may aggregate all the collected OTSs regularly and get the aggregated signatures according to the number recorded for different shared IoT providers. Specifically, for *n* different signatures ($\epsilon_{\text{total},i}$, $\rho_{\text{total},i}$) belong to the same IoT provider, where i = 1, ..., n, the new gateway can get aggregated signature by computing

$$(\epsilon_a, \rho_a) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_{\text{total},i} (\text{mod } q), \sum_{i=1}^n \rho_{\text{total},i} (\text{mod } q)\right).$$

To prove the amount of signatures authenticated, gateways send $(pid_1, \theta_1, \ldots, pid_n, \theta_n, \epsilon_a, \rho_a)$ to the central server. The central server first checks whether there exists the same pair (pid, θ) , and then it verifies the aggregated signature as shown in Algorithm 3. If all the verifications pass, the central server pays bills to the corresponding IoT device provider and afterward, IoT device provider gives some economic incentive to gateways according to the amount of signatures they proved.

I. Entity Revocation

In our system, it is easy to achieve revocation. The central server can stop updating the secret keys of malicious gateways and shared IoT devices. So malicious shared IoT devices cannot conduct the mutual authentication with legitimate gateways and they cannot join the system any longer. The malicious gateways cannot be authenticated by legitimate users either to trick users out of signatures.



Fig. 6. Service termination process.

Algorithm 3: Aggregated Signature Verification

Input: The random numbers $\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_n$, the security parameter *m*, the secret keys UPK_1, \ldots, UPK_n with identities pid_1, \ldots, pid_n , the aggregated signature (ϵ_a , ρ_a). Output: Valid or Invalid. 1 for i=1 to n do $temp = ka = \lfloor m/2 \rfloor, temp_1 = 1;$ 2 for j=1 to m do 3 $\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{if} \ \theta_i > C_{n-i}^{ka} \ \mathbf{then} \\ \hline temp_1 = temp_1 \times v_{temp-j+1}; \\ \theta_i = \theta_i - C_{n-i}^{ka}, \ ka = ka-1; \end{array}$ 4 5 6 7 end end 8 9 end 10 $temp_2 = g_1^{\epsilon_a} h^{\rho_a};$ 11 if $temp_1 == temp_2$ then return Valid; 12 13 end 14 return Invalid;

For users, if they use up their secret keys, their privilege to get IoT services will be naturally revoked. The central server can also revoke users' privilege beforehand by adding their *pids* into the bitmap and informing the gateways of this update.

V. SECURITY ANALYSIS

In this section, we will analyze the security features of our system in terms of message confidentiality, privacy preserving, signature unforgeability, and auditability. It shows that our scheme can effectively defend against potential attacks.

A. Message Confidentiality

Lemma 1: An attacker cannot obtain any information from the encrypted messages.

Proof: Suppose the messages in service request $D = g_1^d$, $R' = g_1^{r'}$ can be obtained by an attacker A, and the attacker

got the secret key through these messages. It means that the attacker can compute $g_1^{dr'}$, given D, R without knowing d, r', which contradicts with CDH assumption.

Then, the suppose attacker \mathcal{A} can get the communication messages in service discovery y, profile, k_2 , β , S, C by eavesdropping, there are two ways to compute the secret key sk. Because $sk = H_2(g_2^{H_2(\alpha | | SK_j)H_2(\delta | | SK_i)})$, \mathcal{A} may compute sk through this equation directly. It is hard for \mathcal{A} to know all the necessary information α , δ , SK_j , and SK_i , so it is computationally infeasible to adversary \mathcal{A} to obtain sk by this way. Another way is given y, k_2 to compute sk as follows:

$$y = \left(g_1^{H_2(i||TS_1)}\lambda\right)^{x_1} = g_1^{x_1z}, y_1 = g_1^{(x_1z)/z}$$

$$k = e(y_1, g_1) = g_2^{x_1}, sk = H_2(g_2^{x_1x_2})$$

where $g_1^z = g_1^{H_2(i||TS_1)}\lambda$. In other words, given $g_2^{x_1}, g_2^{x_2}, g_1^{x_1z}$, and g_1^z , the attacker needs to compute $g_2^{x_1x_2}$ and $g_1^{x_1}$. This obviously contradicts CDH and DCDH assumptions.

B. Privacy Preserving

Lemma 2: Malicious gateways or external attackers cannot learn any information about the users' privacy.

Proof: All the command related messages in both service request and command execution phases are encrypted. As proved in Lemma 1, attackers cannot know the service which is going to be executed by decrypting the messages. Besides, different OTSs are generated by using different secret keys and there is no relation between different secret keys, so the anonymity is ensured and attackers cannot infer who is requesting the services by the signature sent.

C. Signature Unforgeability

In our scheme, gateways should generate IBSs to prove that they are legitimate to the users, and the users also need to show OTSs to gateways to get services. So, we will analyze the signature unforgeability in terms of both IBS and OTS. First, if a malicious gateway can generate a valid IBS, it can pretend to be a legitimate gateway to cheat users of service credentials (i.e., OTSs). But the IBS in our system cannot be forged, which is proven in [44]. Then, if the OTS can be forged, malicious users can get service without paying money. But attackers are unable to generate a forged OTS either, and the corresponding proof is as follows.

Lemma 3: If the DLP is hard to solve on group G_1 , any attacker cannot forge a valid OTS.

Proof: Suppose there exists an attacker A who can break the unforgeability of OTS with nonnegligible probability Adv_A , we can find an algorithm B to solve the DLP.

Given (g, h) as input, \mathcal{B} generates $(USK_1, UPK_1), \ldots$, (USK_w, UPK_w) using (g, h) as shown in the registration phase, and sends UPK_1, \ldots, UPK_w and public parameters to \mathcal{A} . \mathcal{A} makes one signature query for each key and \mathcal{B} returns the valid signatures on random number $Q = \{\theta_1, \ldots, \theta_w\}$. Then, attacker \mathcal{A} outputs a signature (ϵ, ρ) on a random number m, which is verified using UPK_i . Let $(\bar{\epsilon}, \bar{\rho})$ be the signature generated by \mathcal{B} using USK_i . So, we can have the following equation:

$$g_1^{\bar{\epsilon}_{\text{total}}} h^{\bar{\rho}_{\text{total}}} = g_1^{\epsilon_{\text{total}}} h^{\rho_{\text{total}}}.$$

Here, we should consider two cases: 1) $m \notin Q$ and 2) $m \in Q$, but $(\epsilon, \rho) \neq (\bar{\epsilon}, \bar{\rho})$. Because the elements in $\bar{\rho}$ are the uniformly random values from $\{0, 1\}^{l_r}$, in case 1), the forged signature equals $(\bar{\epsilon}, \bar{\rho})$ with probability $1/C_{l_r}^m$ and the probability of case 2) is $1-1/C_{l_r}^m$. Because the advantage of \mathcal{A} forging a signature is $Adv_{\mathcal{A}}$, \mathcal{A} can forge a signature satisfying case 2) with probability $(1-1/C_{l_r}^m)Adv_{\mathcal{A}}$. In such a case, \mathcal{B} obtain two different signatures, which allows \mathcal{B} to solve DLP by computing $\log_{g_1} h = (\bar{\rho}_{total} - \rho_{total})/(\epsilon_{total} - \bar{\epsilon}_{total})$ with a nonnegligible advantage. It contradicts to intractability of solving the DLP.

D. Auditability

The audit mechanism is provided in our scheme to make it possible for a central server to find the dishonest behavior of malicious users and gateways in time.

Lemma 4: Malicious users dare not generate more than one signature using the same secret key.

Proof: As shown in Algorithm 1, every time a user generates a signature, $\lfloor m/2 \rfloor$ elements in *SK* will be exposed. Suppose a user generates two signatures using the same secret key but different random numbers θ s, the best situation is exposing $\lfloor m/2 \rfloor + 1$ elements and the worst situation is exposing $2\lfloor m/2 \rfloor$ elements. Because the signatures are transported in plaintext, an attacker can generate extra $C_{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor+1}^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor+1} - 2 \sim C_{2\lfloor m/2 \rfloor}^{\lfloor m/2 \rfloor} - 2$ valid signatures to obtain IoT services. The central server can easily find these illegtimate signatures and make the malicious users pay for all these extra illegtimate usages.

Lemma 5: The gateways cannot increase the amount of signature they authenticate by forging and reusing.

Proof: The OTS is unforgeable, which is already proved in Lemma 3. Considering gateways reuse the collected signatures, the central server will find this kind of dishonest behaviors by checking whether there exists identical (pid, θ) pairs.

 TABLE I

 Comparison With Other Access Control Schemes

Scheme	Access	Privacy	Offline	Mobility	Service
	Control	Preservation	Server	Support	Accountability
PABE [20]	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
SPSH [21]	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Heracles [23]	Yes	No	No	No	No
DCapBAC [25]	Yes	No	No	No	No
Our Scheme	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

E. Comparison

We compare our scheme with several existing schemes in terms of security features. As shown in Table I, although all of these schemes can achieve secure access control, our scheme is the only one which can achieve access control, privacy preservation, offline server, mobility support, and service accountability simultaneously. In particular, because PABE, SPSH, Heracles, and DCapBAC are designed for IoT in the traditional environment, mobility support and service accountability are not integrated into these systems. Due to the need of asking the server for tokens, Heracles and DCapBAC require the server to be online all the time. Besides, since tokens in Heracles and DCapBAC contain user identity and attributes in PABE are related to the user, privacy cannot be preserved in these schemes. Overall, our scheme has the best security features.

VI. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

In this section, we implement a prototype system and analyze its performance using our prototype. We use Google Nexus 5 (2.3-GHz CPU, 2-GB RAM) as the subject devices own by users, Google Cloud with Intel Xeon 2.5-GHz CPU as the central server, and simulate gateways and shared IoT devices by Banana Pi R1 (1.2-GHz CPU, 1-GB RAM). In our evaluation, subject devices/shared IoT devices connect with gateways through WiFi and gateways communicate with the central server through the Ethernet. To accomplish our evaluation, we use the pairing-based cryptography (PBC) library and the OpenSSL library in Google Cloud and Banana Pi, and Java PBC (JPBC) library and AndroidOpenSSL library in Google Nexus 5.

A. Key Management Overhead

We first test the OTS-related key management overhead. In our scheme, the central server must generate massive OTS-related secret keys and users also need to use the hash function to generate all of their secret keys. As shown in Fig. 7, the key generation only costs users several milliseconds and it costs the central server much more time due to the exponent arithmetic on G_1 . But this operation can be executed in parallel, so the cost is acceptable for the central server.

B. Discovery Overhead

In our system, gateways and shared IoT devices are not fully trusted, so the mutual authentication is processed in the discovery phase. Fig. 8(a) presents the computation overhead



Fig. 7. Key management overhead.



Fig. 8. Discovery and request overhead.

of gateways and IoT devices. We can see that we put heavy operations (e.g., pairing) in gateways and it can finish computation in 64 ms. The computations in IoT devices are the lighter operations (e.g., exponent and hash), and thus the time cost in IoT devices is only 18% of that in gateways. So it is feasible to apply our scheme to the shared IoT devices with weaker CPUs. We also test the *authentication latency* (total computation overhead plus communication overhead) in the real-world scenario using our prototype. The result shows that the discovery phase can be accomplished in 91 ms, which is acceptable considering this phase is not often executed and it has no relation with user experience.

C. Request and Execution Overhead

1) Overhead Analysis: Next, we test the performance of request, execution, and termination, which are directly related to user experience. In the request phase, subject devices are required to conduct OTS generation, IBS verification, and Enc process each one time, and object devices need to conduct OTS verification, IBS generation, and Dec for one time correspondingly. Table II shows the computation cost for these processes. We set security parameters in OTS as m = 19, $l_r = 32$, and n = 16. Because the OTS generation only needs m times

TABLE II COMPUTATION COST FOR CRYPTOGRAPHIC PROCESSES

Device	Processes	Operations	Time (ms)
	OTS Generation	mlookup	0.8
Subject Devices	IBS Verification	2 M+2 E+2 H+1 DH	84.9
	DH Key Exchange	1 E	40.5
	Enc	AES-256	0.06/KB
Object Devices	OTS Verification	m lookup+m comparison +18 A+2 E+1 M	7.6
	IBS Generation	1 A+1 M +1 E	3.4
	DH Key Exchange	1 E	3.3
	Dec	AES-256	0.036/KB

^{*} A, M and E represent the addition, multiplication and exponentiation operation on group *G*₁. We denote H, DH as hash and DH key exchange operation respectively.

lookup operation, subject devices can generate an OTS in 0.8 ms, which is very fast. It is also efficient for object devices to verify OTSs and generate IBSs. Because the JPBC library is not very efficient for computation on group G_1 , the time cost for subject devices to verify IBS is a little high.

Fig. 8(b) shows the detailed time cost of users and gateways. In step 1, users only generate a random number, whose time cost is negligible, so it is not shown in the figure. However, step 3 costs about 126 ms with proportions of each operation as 0.6% in the OTS generation, 67.3% in the IBS verification, and 32.1% in the DH key exchange. The computation overhead in the gateway is lower and the proportions of its time cost are 53.1% in OTS verification, 23.8% in IBS generation, and 23.1% in DH key exchange. The symmetric encryption is very fast in both subject devices and object devices with speed of 0.036 and 0.06 ms/kB, respectively, which is negligible to other operations. The time cost ratio of IBS and DH key exchange operations is very large, so we can find better IBS and secret key negotiation algorithm to improve our scheme in the future.

In the execution phase, gateways and shared IoT devices only conduct symmetric encryption which is very fast and can be overlooked. Similarly, we utilize our prototype system to measure the *execution latency* (the time cost from users sending the first message in the request phase to shared IoT devices executing the commands). The execution latency is about 159 ms, which means that users can hardly sense the execution latency.

2) Comparison: In order to show the advantages of our scheme, we also compare our scheme with PABE, SPSH, Heracles, and DCapBAC in terms of operations and overhead in request and execution phases. Note that the number of punctured attributes and the security parameter d in the PABE is set as 0 and 5, respectively. We consider that there is only one set of five attributes can satisfy the corresponding access policy in SPSH. We use an elliptic curve with a 160-b group order to implement our scheme. We implement a 1024-b RSA in Heracles and 192-b ECDSA in DCapBAC, which have the approximate security level of our scheme. Besides, instead of utilizing a security model where gateways cannot be fully trusted, these compared schemes either have no gateways or have fully trusted gateways. Therefore, for

 TABLE III

 REQUEST AND EXECUTION OPERATION COMPARISON

Scheme	Request			Execution		
Seneme	User	Gateway	Server	User	Gateway	IoT Device
PABE [20]	-	-	-	Pt-CP-ABE	-	-
SPSH [21]	-	-	-	PH-CP-ABE	-	-
Heracles [23]	RSA, $R\overline{S}A$	-	RSA, $R\overline{S}A$	RSA, $R\overline{S}A$	-	RSA, $R\overline{S}A$
DCapBAC [25]	ECDSA	_	ECDSA	_	-	$EC\overline{D}SA^2$
Our Scheme	$I\bar{B}S$,OTS,Enc	IBS,Dec, $O\bar{T}S$	-	-	Enc,Dec	Dec,Enc

* RSA/ $R\bar{S}A$, ECDSA/ $EC\bar{D}SA$, IBS/ $I\bar{B}S$ and OTS/ $O\bar{T}S$ represents corresponding algorithm signing/verifying process respectively. $EC\bar{D}SA^2$ means corresponding algorithm are conducted 2 times. Pt-CP-ABE and PH-CP-ABE are improved CP-ABE algorithms used in literatures [20] and [21], respectively.

TABLE IV Request and Execution Overhead Comparison

Scheme	Computation Overhead				Execution	
Seneme	User	Server	Gateway	IoT Device	Latency	
PABE [20]	1387.5	-	-	-	1439.5	
SPSH [21]	1339.0	-	-	-	1391.2	
Heracles [23]	210.0	0.6	-	12.7	285.3	
DCapBAC [25]	3.0	0.9	-	37.3	103.2	
Our Scheme-WHG	0.8	-	7.6	< 0.1	18.4	
Our Scheme	125.4	-	13.7	< 0.1	159.1	

fairness consideration, we also compare these schemes with *Our Scheme-WHG*, where the gateways are fully trusted and thus IBS related operations are exempted.

Tables III and IV show the operations needed and overhead cost in the different schemes, respectively. We can see that although PABE and SPSH only need a user to conduct one CP-ABE operation, CP-ABE is too heavy for users' subject devices and it costs more than 1300 ms to finish this operation. So, the PABE and SPSH have the most execution latency in all six schemes. In Heracles, users are required to execute twice RSA verification and generation, and the server and IoT device are only required to execute once. The time cost in the user side is 210 ms, which takes up 73.6% of the execution latency and is much larger than our scheme. In DCapBAC, the IoT device needs to verify the ECDSA signatures generated by the user and the server. The DCapBAC performs better than other these schemes and also has lower execution latency than our scheme. But with the same security model, the execution latency of Our Scheme-WHG is only 18.4 ms, which is more than five times faster than the DCapBAC. Therefore, we can draw the conclusion that our scheme has the highest efficiency among these schemes in a sharing economy environment.

D. Termination Overhead

The computation overhead in the termination phase is related to that in the discovery and request phase, so we do not analyze it here. Fig. 6 gives the *termination latency* (the time cost from users sending the first message in the termination phase to users receiving a success feedback message) of type A devices. Note that users need to send *num* OTSs to gateways and termination latency increases from 155 to 307 ms with *num* growing from 2 to 20 when gateways verify OTSs



Fig. 9. Termination latency.

individually. So, when the signature number is too big, our system will lose efficiency, which is the situation that we do not expect. So, the OTS in our scheme can also support batch verification using the small exponents tests proposed in [45] and we conduct the batch verification in our system where the length of random exponents is set as 30. As shown in Fig. 9, the terminal latency can be decreased by 4.8%, 13.1%, 25.5%, 38.1%, and 46.6% when the *num* is set as 2, 4, 8, 14, and 20, respectively. We can see that the batch verification can largely improve the efficiency of our system when the *num* is very big. For type B devices, because they are terminated automatically when they finish the services, the termination latency is 0.

E. Accounting Overhead

To make it easy for the central server for accounting, gateways aggregate the OTSs collected regularly and the central server only needs to verify the aggregated signatures. Here, we measure the accounting overhead from signature aggregation and aggregated signature verification. As shown in Fig. 10, when the number of signatures increases from 10 000 to 100 000, the time cost of signature aggregation and aggregated signature verification varies from 55.3 to 612.3 ms and 278.7 to 2860.5 ms, respectively. It indicates that the accounting phase is very fast and it only brings a little to both gateways and a central server.



Fig. 10. Accounting overhead.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this article, we designed an efficient and secure access control scheme for IoT in the sharing economy environment. Our design effectively supports service accountability, privacy preservation, and information feedback. By adopting OTSs, anonymous authentication can be achieved and OTSs are considered as trusted credentials used in service accounting. The computation overhead in service accounting can be largely reduced by making gateways aggregate collected signatures. Our proposed protocols are able to deal with the mobility problem of shared IoT devices and let IoT providers collect some feedback information without disclosing users' privacy. Our security analysis shows that our scheme can successfully defend against potential attacks, and the experimental results conducted in the implemented prototype system demonstrate that our scheme also ensures good efficiency.

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