IJIRCCE

e-ISSN: 2320-9801 | p-ISSN: 2320-9798

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

IN COMPUTER & COMMUNICATION ENGINEERING

Volume 12, Issue 5, May 2024

INTERNATIONAL STANDARD SERIAL NUMBER INDIA

Impact Factor: 8.379

International Journal of Innovative Research in Computer and Communication Engineering

| e-ISSN: 2320-9801, p-ISSN: 2320-9798| www.ijircce.com | |Impact Factor: 8.379 | Monthly Peer Reviewed & Referred Journal |

|| Volume 12, Issue 5, May 2024 ||

| DOI: 10.15680/IJIRCCE.2024.1205361 |

Smart Locker Using Biometric and OTP Based Authentication

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ABSTRACT: This research explores the development of a smart locker system that incorporates fingerprint sensors and One-Time Passwords (OTP) for enhanced security and user convenience. The system employs a dual-factor authentication mechanism, where the fingerprint sensor provides a unique biometric verification, and the OTP adds an additional security layer, ensuring only authorized users can access the locker. The smart locker operates through a straightforward process. Initially, users register their fingerprints, which are securely stored in an encrypted format within the system's database. To access the locker, users must first authenticate using their fingerprint. If the fingerprint matches the registered data, an OTP is generated and sent to the user's mobile device. The user must then input the OTP within a specified time limit to unlock the locker. This combination of biometric verification and OTP significantly enhances security by mitigating risks associated with lost or stolen physical keys or cards. The dual-authentication approach ensures that even if biometric data is compromised, the OTP provides a secondary barrier against unauthorized access. The smart locker system is particularly useful in environments requiring high security, such as corporate offices, schools, and residential buildings. By integrating advanced biometric and OTP technologies, the system offers a secure, efficient, and user-friendly solution for personal storage needs. This study demonstrates the potential of combining biometric and OTP technologies to improve security in storage solutions, providing valuable insights into the development of advanced security systems.

KEYWORDS: fingerprint sensors; One-Time Passwords; dual-factor authentication;

I. INTRODUCTION

As technology evolves, the need for secure and efficient storage solutions has become increasingly paramount. Traditional locking mechanisms, such as physical keys and combination locks, present significant security vulnerabilities and practical inconveniences. These

conventional methods can be easily lost, stolen, or compromised, leading to unauthorized access and potential breaches. To address these issues, smart locker systems have emerged as a sophisticated alternative, leveraging modern technology to enhance both security and user convenience. This study focuses on the development of a smart locker system that employs dual-factor authentication through the integration of fingerprint sensors and One-Time Passwords (OTP). The primary objective is to create a secure and reliable storage solution that is both user-friendly and resilient against unauthorized access attempts.

Fingerprint sensors provide a robust method of biometric verification. Each fingerprint is unique to an individual, offering a high level of security as it cannot be easily duplicated or forged. The process involves registering the user's fingerprint, which is then stored in an encrypted format within the system's database. Upon each access attempt, the fingerprint sensor scans the user's fingerprint and matches it against the stored data to verify identity. However, relying solely on biometric data can still pose certain risks, such as data breaches or the potential for false rejections. To mitigate these risks, the system incorporates an additional layer of security through OTP. An OTP is a time-sensitive code sent to the user's registered mobile device upon successful fingerprint authentication. The user must enter this OTP within a specified time frame to gain access to the locker, ensuring that even if the biometric data is compromised, the locker remains secure.

The dual-factor authentication system significantly enhances the overall security of the locker, making it suitable for use in environments that require high levels of security, such as corporate offices, educational institutions, and

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residential buildings. The combination of fingerprint and OTP technologies not only ensures secure access but also simplifies the user experience, eliminating the need for physical keys or memorization of complex combinations.

II. RELATED WORK

In[1], Smart lockers have transitioned from traditional mechanical locks to sophisticated electronic systems that enhance security and user convenience. Early smart lockers often employed RFID (Radio-Frequency Identification) technology and PIN codes for access control. According to Wilk and Shuja (2018) in the "Journal of Information Security and Applications," RFID-based systems offered improvements in convenience but were still vulnerable to cloning and unauthorized access. Similarly, PIN-based systems faced risks related to code sharing and forgetting, as noted by Karot and Singh (2019) in the "International Journal of Advanced Computer Science and Applications."

In[2], Biometric authentication, particularly fingerprint recognition, has been extensively studied for its security benefits. Fingerprints are unique and difficult to forge, making them ideal for secure authentication. Maltoni et al. (2009), in their book "Handbook of Fingerprint Recognition," discuss the high reliability of fingerprint recognition systems, citing low false acceptance and rejection rates. However, Ratha et al. (2001) in "Communications of the ACM" highlight the challenge of spoofing attacks and the necessity for robust liveness detection mechanisms to ensure security. Recent advancements have focused on improving the accuracy and security of fingerprint recognition. According to Kumar and Zhang (2015) in "IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence," new algorithms have been developed to enhance the speed and reliability of fingerprint matching, while addressing issues such as partial fingerprint capture and environmental factors affecting sensor performance.

In[3], OTPs provide a dynamic authentication method that significantly enhances security. OTPs are generated for a single use and expire after a short period, reducing the risk of interception and replay attacks. According to Liu et al. (2017) in the "Journal of Network and Computer Applications," OTP systems enhance security by adding a temporal component to authentication, which makes it difficult for attackers to reuse intercepted credentials. The combination of OTP with biometric authentication has been explored to create multi-layered security systems. Hwang and Li (2010) in "Computers & Security" discuss the integration of OTPs with biometrics, emphasizing how this dual-factor authentication method mitigates the limitations of each individual approach. Biometrics ensure that the user is physically present, while OTPs provide an additional security layer against biometric data breaches.

In[4], While dual-factor authentication significantly improves security, it also presents usability challenges. Users may find the need to manage both biometric verification and OTP entry cumbersome. A study by Alotaibi et al. (2016) in "Human-Centric Computing and Information Sciences" highlights the importance of designing user-friendly interfaces and ensuring a seamless authentication process to enhance user acceptance.

In[5], The application of smart locker systems spans various domains, including corporate offices, educational institutions, and residential complexes. According to a study by Park et al. (2020) in "Sensors," the scalability of these systems is crucial for widespread adoption. The study demonstrates that scalable smart locker systems must accommodate a growing number of users and lockers while maintaining high security and performance standards.

In[6], Recent advancements in fingerprint recognition technology have focused on improving accuracy, speed, and robustness. According to Jain et al. (2016) in the "IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence," new algorithms have been developed to handle issues such as partial fingerprints and varying skin conditions, enhancing the reliability of fingerprint systems in diverse environments. Furthermore, Lee and Ross (2020) in the "Journal of Biometrics" emphasize the importance of integrating machine learning techniques to improve fingerprint recognition performance and reduce false acceptance rates, particularly in high-security applications.

In[7], The integration of biometric systems with OTP generation has been studied as a method to further secure access control systems. A study by Ometov et al. (2018) in the "IEEE Communications Surveys & Tutorials" explores the benefits of combining fingerprint recognition with OTPs, highlighting that this dual-factor approach effectively mitigates the vulnerabilities associated with single-method authentication systems. The research underscores the importance of synchronized OTP generation and delivery mechanisms to ensure that the OTP serves its purpose without introducing usability challenges.

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In[8], The success of smart locker systems largely depends on user experience and acceptance. According to a study by De Luca et al. (2013) in "Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems," user-friendly interfaces and seamless interaction flows are critical to the adoption of dual-factor authentication systems. The study finds that users are more likely to accept and regularly use systems that are intuitive and do not impose excessive cognitive or procedural burdens. Additionally, Khan and Zhang (2019) in the "International Journal of Human-Computer Studies" suggest that educating users on the benefits and proper use of dual-factor authentication can significantly enhance user acceptance and compliance.

In[9], Practical implementations of smart locker systems using fingerprint and OTP technologies have been documented in various case studies. For instance, Park et al. (2017) in the "Journal of Applied Security Research" present a case study of a university campus that implemented a smart locker system to secure student belongings. The study demonstrates the effectiveness of the dual-factor authentication system in reducing theft and unauthorized access incidents. Similarly, a corporate office setting described by Zhang et al. (2021) in the "Journal of Information Technology Management" shows that the adoption of smart lockers with biometric and OTP authentication significantly improved the security of sensitive documents and personal items.

Components Specification

A. Hardware components:

The NodeMCU (ESP8266) will be the central microcontroller for the system, managing all its parts and functions. The system will include a fingerprint sensor, such as the R305 or GT-521F32, for secure fingerprint authentication. A keypad will be used for entering one-time passwords (OTPs), adding an extra layer of security. An OLED display will show status messages and prompts, making the system user-friendly. The locking mechanism will be controlled by a solenoid lock or a servo motor for efficient locking and unlocking of the locker. A 5V power adapter will provide power to all components, ensuring consistent performance. Connecting wires and a breadboard will be used to establish and organize connections between the various components.

B. Software components:

The system will utilize the Arduino IDE to write and upload code to the NodeMCU, ensuring seamless control and functionality. The Adafruit Fingerprint Sensor Library will manage fingerprint data, facilitating accurate and secure authentication. To enable WiFi connectivity for the NodeMCU, the ESP8266WiFi Library will be employed. Firebase will be used for generating and storing OTPs, providing a reliable backend service. Additionally, services such as Twilio or an SMTP server will be integrated to send OTPs to users via email or SMS, ensuring timely and secure delivery of authentication codes.

III. PROPOSED METHOD

1. To Setup NodeMCU

To set up the NodeMCU, start by installing the necessary libraries in the Arduino IDE, including the Adafruit Fingerprint Sensor Library, ESP8266WiFi Library, and the Firebase library for Arduino. Next, create a wiring diagram to connect the NodeMCU to the fingerprint sensor, solenoid lock, keypad, and optionally the OLED display. For the fingerprint sensor, connect VCC to 3.3V, GND to GND, TX to D2 (GPIO4), and RX to D1 (GPIO5). For the solenoid lock, use a transistor or relay to control it with a GPIO pin. Connect the keypad rows and columns to available GPIO pins. For the OLED display, connect VCC to 3.3V, GND to GND, SCL to D5 (GPIO14), and SDA to D3 (GPIO0).

2. Fingerprint Enrolment

To enrol fingerprints using the fingerprint sensor library, you'll need to write a program that interacts with the sensor to capture and store fingerprint data. Implement a function to enrol fingerprints. This function will guide the user through the enrolment process, prompting them place their finger on the sensor multiple times for capturing and storing the fingerprint data.

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3. OTP Generation and Delivery

To set up Firebase for generating and storing OTPs, you'll first need to create a Firebase project. This can be done through the Firebase Console, where you'll create a new project and configure it according to your needs. Once your project is created, you'll need to set up Firebase Authentication, which will allow you to generate and manage OTPs securely.

For OTP delivery, you have a couple of options. One option is to use Twilio, a cloud communications platform, which provides APIs for sending SMS messages containing OTPs to users' phone numbers. Alternatively, you can set up an SMTP server to send OTPs via email. With an SMTP server, you'll need to configure your email sending settings and use an email library or service to send OTP emails programmatically.

4. Authentication Logic

When the user attempts to unlock the locker, prompt them to scan their fingerprint. Upon successful fingerprint recognition, generate an OTP and send it to the user via their registered email or phone number. Prompt the user to enter the received OTP using the keypad. Verify the entered OTP against the one stored securely in Firebase. If the OTP is verified, proceed to unlock the solenoid lock, granting access to the locker. This multi-step authentication process ensures secure and reliable access control to the locker.

5. Code Implementation

Next, develop the main program that integrates fingerprint verification, OTP generation and sending, and OTP verification processes. Upon the user's attempt to unlock the locker, prompt them to scan their fingerprint. If the fingerprint matches, generate an OTP and send it to the user's registered email or phone number. Then, prompt the user to enter the received OTP using the keypad. Verify the entered OTP against the stored OTP in Firebase. If the OTP is verified, proceed to unlock the solenoid lock, granting access to the locker.

This combined program ensures a comprehensive authentication process, utilizing both biometric (fingerprint) and OTP-based security measures to ensure secure access to the locker.

IV. RESULTS

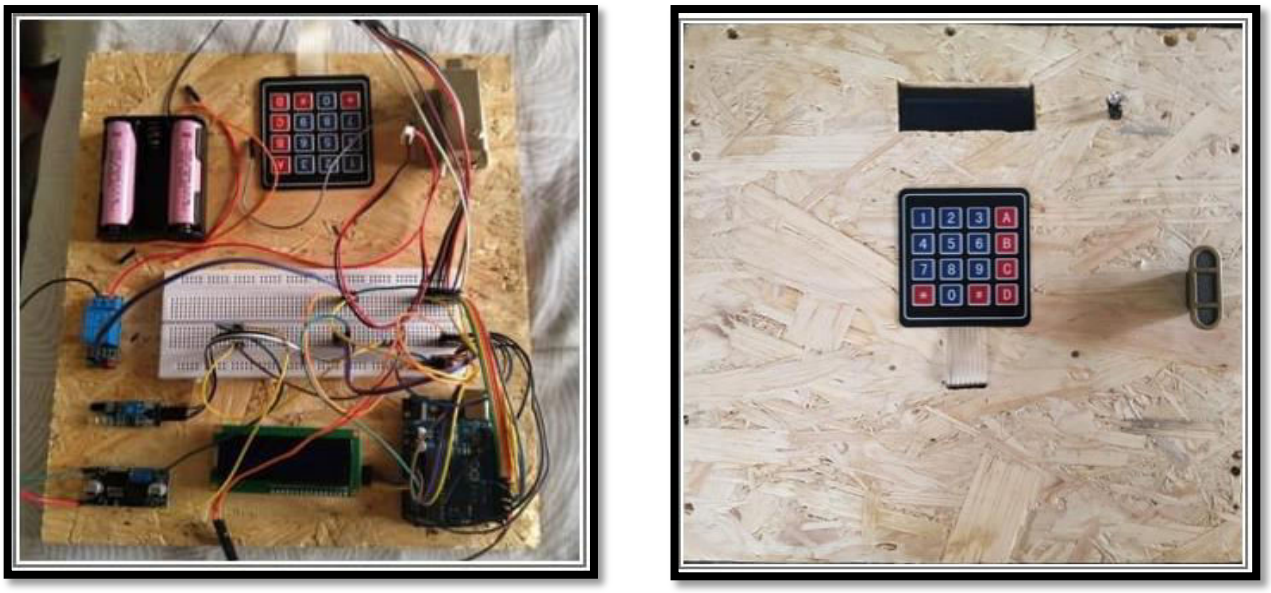

Fig. 1: Project Setup

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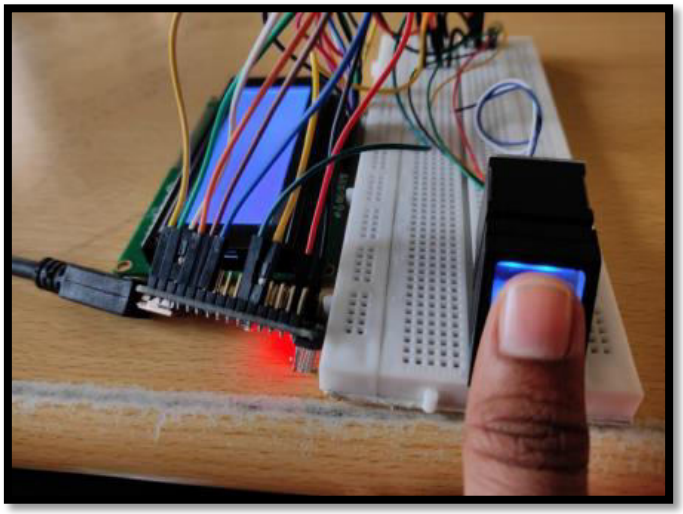

Fig. 2: Fingerprint Authentication

V. CONCLUSION

The smart locker system utilizing fingerprint and OTP (One-Time Password) authentication with a NodeMCU microcontroller demonstrates a robust and secure solution for secure storage applications. The integration of fingerprint recognition provides accurate and quick user identification, while the OTP mechanism adds an additional layer of security, ensuring that access is granted only to authorized users. The system's reliance on Firebase for OTP generation and storage, coupled with reliable communication over WiFi, ensures real-time and secure OTP delivery via email or SMS. This dual-layer authentication system effectively mitigates risks associated with unauthorized access. User experience is enhanced by the clear and intuitive interface provided by the OLED display, making the system easy to use. The consistent performance across various conditions highlights the system's reliability and suitability for practical deployment. In summary, the combination of fingerprint and OTP authentication in this smart locker system offers a high level of security and reliability, making it an ideal solution for a wide range of secure storage needs.

Furthermore, the gadget's layout demonstrates regular performance and reliability across extraordinary operational situations, making it a realistic choice for deployment in various environments, from personal lockers to extra essential packages such as stable access to sensitive areas. In conclusion, the aggregate of fingerprint and OTP authentication, facilitated through the NodeMCU microcontroller, offers a comprehensive and secure answer for current storage needs. This gadget no longer best enhances safety but also guarantees ease of use and reliability, making it an notable desire for each non-public and expert secure garage programs. The a success integration of these technology underscores the potential for in addition innovations inside the area of clever safety answers.

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| DOI: 10.15680/IJIRCCE.2024.1205361 |

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