

Graphical Passwords for Artificial Intelligence Problems

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Abstract :

Artificial Intelligence is predominant in all technologies. But this artificial intelligence is used for anti-social activities by the hackers and intruders of cybercrime. Using the artificial intelligence the criminals are breaking the passwords of financial applications of the users and eavesdrop the valuable information. The usage of artificial intelligence in breaking the passwords of financial applications with the guessing attacks has become a threat in cybercrime. To arrest these problems arise from the artificial intelligence we introduce a novel concept of image passwords. Usage of image passwords along with log in information in the financial data application log in screens can solve the problems of the guessing attacks with the help of Artificial Intelligence. To introduce this graphical passwords a novel Captcha technology has been implemented in this project. This technology has provided reasonable security to prevent guessing attacks of the cyber criminals.

Keywords:

Graphical Password, Captcha, guessing attack, Security implementations.

1.INTRODUCTION:

The security implementations in the web based applications can be possible with the help of cryptographic primitives. But the security implementation with the help of cryptosystems are broken by cyber criminals and using artificial intelligence to intrude into the applications. The digital signature algorithms have been introduced to overcome these problems. But these are also become in vain before the power of execution of artificial intelligence. To admeasure the problems encountered by Artificial Intelligence to break the passwords with guessing attacks a novel primitive has been invented in the form of Captcha. This Captcha is used by the humans with great ease but it is difficult for computers or any artificial intelligence software.

Captcha is a novel method to stop the problems incurred by the Artificial Intelligence. Captcha technology is rich with some text material in a prescribed area and it is supported by a key which regenerate another Captcha to be typed by the human beings. However, this new paradigm has achieved just a limited success as compared with the cryptographic primitives based on hard math problems and their wide applications. Is it possible to create any new security primitive based on hard AI problems? This is a challenging and interesting open problem. In this paper, we introduce a new security primitive based on hard AI problems, namely, a novel family of graphical password systems integrating Captcha technology, which we call CaRP (Captcha as gRaphical Passwords). CaRP is click-based graphical passwords, where a sequence of clicks on an image is used to derive a password. Unlike other click-based graphical passwords, images used in CaRP are Captcha challenges, and a new CaRP image is generated for every login attempt.

The notion of CaRP is simple but generic. CaRP can have multiple instantiations. In theory, any Captcha scheme relying on multiple-object classification can be converted to a CaRP scheme. We present exemplary CaRPs built on both text Captcha and image-recognition Captcha. One of them is a text CaRP wherein a password is a sequence of characters like a text password, but entered by clicking the right character sequence on CaRP images. CaRP offers protection against online dictionary attacks on passwords, which have been for long time a major security threat for various online services. This threat is widespread and considered as a top cyber security risk. Defense against online dictionary attacks is a more subtle problem than it might appear. Intuitive countermeasures such as throttling logon attempts do not work well for two reasons:

- 1) It causes denial-of-service attacks (which were exploited to lock highest bidders out in final minutes of eBay auctions [12]) and incurs expensive helpdesk costs for account reactivation..
- 2) It is vulnerable to global password attacks whereby adversaries intend to break into any account rather than

a specific one, and thus try each password candidate on multiple accounts and ensure that the number of trials on each account is below the threshold to avoid triggering account lockout. CaRP also offers protection against relay attacks, an increasing threat to bypass Captchas protection, wherein Captcha challenges are relayed to humans to solve. Koobface was a relay attack to bypass Facebook's Captcha in creating new accounts. CaRP is robust to shoulder-surfing attacks if combined with dual-view technologies. CaRP requires solving a Captcha challenge in every login. This impact on usability can be mitigated by adapting the CaRP image's difficulty level based on the login history of the account and the machine used to log in. Typical application scenarios for CaRP include:

1) CaRP can be applied on touch-screen devices where on typing passwords is cumbersome, esp. for secure Internet applications such as e-banks. Many e-banking systems have applied Captchas in user logins [39]. For example, ICBC (www.icbc.com.cn), the largest bank in the world, requires solving a Captcha challenge for every online login attempt.

2) CaRP increases spammer's operating cost and thus helps reduce spam emails. For an email service provider that deploys CaRP, a spam bot cannot log into an email account even if it knows the password. Instead, human involvement is compulsory to access an account.

If CaRP is combined with a policy to throttle the number of emails sent to new recipients per login session, a spam bot can send only a limited number of emails before asking human assistance for login, leading to reduced outbound spam traffic. The remaining paper is organized as follows: Background and related work are presented in Section II. We outline CaRP in Section III, and present a variety of CaRP schemes in Sections IV and V. Security analysis is provided in Section VI. A usability study on two CaRP schemes that we have implemented is reported in Section VII. Balance of security and usability is discussed in Section VIII. We conclude the paper with Section IX.

II. BACKGROUND AND RELATED WORK:

A. Graphical Passwords:

A graphical password is an authentication system that works by having the user select from images, in a specific order, presented in a graphical user interface (GUI).

For this reason, the graphical-password approach is sometimes called graphical user authentication (GUA). A graphical password is easier than a text-based password for most people to remember. Suppose an 8-character password is necessary to gain entry into a particular computer network. Instead of w8KiJ72c, for example, a user might select images of the earth (from among a screen full of real and fictitious planets), the country of France (from a map of the world), the city of Nice (from a map of France), a white stucco house with arched doorways and red tiles on the roof, a green plastic cooler with a white lid, a package of Gouda cheese, a bottle of grape juice, and a pink paper cup with little green stars around its upper edge and three red bands around the middle. Graphical passwords may offer better security than text-based passwords because many people, in an attempt to memorize text-based passwords, use plain words (rather than the recommended jumble of characters). A dictionary search can often hit on a password and allow a hacker to gain entry into a system in seconds. But if a series of selectable images is used on successive screen pages, and if there are many images on each page, a hacker must try every possible combination at random. If there are 100 images on each of the 8 pages in an 8-image password, there are 100⁸, or 10 quadrillion (10,000,000,000,000,000), possible combinations that could form the graphical password! If the system has a built-in delay of only 0.1 second following the selection of each image until the presentation of the next page, it would take (on average) millions of years to break into the system by hitting it with random image sequences.

2. Captcha Mechanism:

A CAPTCHA (an acronym for "Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart") is a type of challenge-response test used in computing to determine whether or not the user is human. The term was coined in 2003 by Luis von Ahn, Manuel Blum, Nicholas J. Hopper, and John Langford.[1] The most common type of CAPTCHA was first invented in 1997 by Mark D. Lillibridge, Martin Abadi, Krishna Bharat, and Andrei Z. Broder. This form of CAPTCHA requires that the user type the letters of a distorted image, sometimes with the addition of an obscured sequence of letters or digits that appears on the screen. Because the test is administered by a computer, in contrast to the standard Turing test that is administered by a human, a CAPTCHA is sometimes described as a reverse Turing test.

This term is ambiguous because it could also mean a Turing test in which the participants are both attempting to prove they are the computer. This user identification procedure has received many criticisms, especially from disabled people, but also from other people who feel that their everyday work is slowed down by distorted words that are illegible even for users with no disabilities at all.

3. Authentication mechanism through Captcha:

With the demonstration (through research publications) that character recognition CAPTCHAs are vulnerable to computer vision based attacks, some researchers have proposed alternatives to character recognition, in the form of image recognition CAPTCHAs which require users to identify simple objects in the images presented. The argument is that object recognition is typically considered a more challenging problem than character recognition, due to the limited domain of characters and digits in the English alphabet.

Some proposed image recognition CAPTCHAs include:

Chew et al. published their work in the 7th International Information Security Conference, ISC'04, proposing three different versions of image recognition CAPTCHAs, and validating the proposal with user studies. It is suggested that one of the versions, the anomaly CAPTCHA, is best with 100% of human users being able to pass an anomaly CAPTCHA with at least 90% probability in 42 seconds. [24] Datta et al. published their paper in the ACM Multimedia '05 Conference, named IMAGINATION (IMAGE Generation for INternetAuthenticATIOn), proposing a systematic way to image recognition CAPTCHAs. Images are distorted in such a way that state-of-the-art image recognition approaches (which are potential attack technologies) fail to recognize them. [25] Microsoft (Jeremy Elson, John R. Douceur, Jon Howell, and Jared Saul) have developed Animal Species Image Recognition for Restricting Access (ASIRRA) which ask users to distinguish cats from dogs. Microsoft had a beta version of this for websites to use. [26] They claim "Asirra is easy for users; it can be solved by humans 99.6% of the time in under 30 seconds. Anecdotally, users seemed to find the experience of using Asirra much more enjoyable than a text-based CAPTCHA."

This solution was described in a 2007 paper to Proceedings of 14th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security (CCSIts) [27] However, this project was closed in October 2014 and is no longer available. CAPTCHAs based on reading text — or other visual-perception tasks — prevent blind or visually impaired users from accessing the protected resource. [7] However, CAPTCHAs do not have to be visual. Any hard artificial intelligence problem, such as speech recognition, can be used as the basis of a CAPTCHA. Some implementations of CAPTCHAs permit users to opt for an audio CAPTCHA. [8] Other implementations do not require users to enter text, instead asking the user to pick images with common themes from a random selection. [9] For non-sighted users (for example blind users, or the color blind on a color-using test), visual CAPTCHAs present serious problems. Because CAPTCHAs are designed to be unreadable by machines, common assistive technology tools such as screen readers cannot interpret them. Since sites may use CAPTCHAs as part of the initial registration process, or even every login, this challenge can completely block access. In certain jurisdictions, site owners could become target of litigation if they are using CAPTCHAs that discriminate against certain people with disabilities. For example, a CAPTCHA may make a site incompatible with Section 508 in the United States. In other cases, those with sight difficulties can choose to identify a word being read to them.

While providing an audio CAPTCHA allows blind users to read the text, it still hinders those who are both visually and hearing impaired. According to sense.org.uk, about 4% of people over 60 in the UK have both vision and hearing impairments. There are about 23,000 people in the UK who have serious vision and hearing impairments. According to The National Technical Assistance Consortium for Children and Young Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind (NTAC), the number of deafblind children in the USA increased from 9,516 to 10,471 during the period 2004 to 2012. [10] Gallaudet University quotes 1980 to 2007 estimates which suggest upwards of 35,000 fully deafblind adults in the USA. [11] Deafblind population estimates depend heavily on the degree of impairment used in the definition. The use of CAPTCHA thus excludes a small number of individuals from using significant subsets of such common Web-based services as PayPal, GMail, Orkut, Yahoo!, many forum and weblog systems, etc. Even for perfectly sighted individuals, new generations of graphical CAPTCHAs, designed to overcome sophis

ticated recognition software, can be very hard or impossible to read. A method of improving the CAPTCHA to ease the work with it was proposed by ProtectWebForm and was called “Smart CAPTCHA”. [12] Developers advise to combine the CAPTCHA with JavaScript support. Since it is too hard for most of spam robots to parse and execute JavaScript, using a simple script which fills the CAPTCHA fields and hides the image and the field from human eyes was proposed.

GRAPHICAL PASSWORDS FROM CAPTCHA:

In a guessing attack, a password guess tested in an unsuccessful trial is determined wrong and excluded from subsequent trials. The number of undetermined password guesses decreases with more trials, leading to a better chance of finding the password. Mathematically, let S be the set of password guesses before any trial, ρ be the password to find, T denote a trial whereas T_n denote the n -th trial, and $p(T = \rho)$ be the probability that ρ is tested in trial T . Let E_n be the set of password guesses tested in trials up to (including) T_n . The password guess to be tested in n -th trial T_n is from set $S \setminus E_{n-1}$, i.e., the relative complement of E_{n-1} in S . If $\rho \in S$, then we have

$$p(T = \rho | T_1 \neq \rho, \dots, T_{n-1} \neq \rho) > p(T = \rho), \quad (1)$$

and $E_n \rightarrow S$

$$p(T = \rho | T_1 \neq \rho, \dots, T_{n-1} \neq \rho) \rightarrow 1$$

with $|E_n| \rightarrow |S|$, (2) where $|S|$ denotes the cardinality of S . From Eq. (2), the password is always found within $|S|$ trials if it is in S ; otherwise S is exhausted after $|S|$ trials. Each trial determines if the tested password guess is the actual password or not, and the trial's result is deterministic. To counter guessing attacks, traditional approaches in designing graphical passwords aim at increasing the effective password space to make passwords harder to guess and thus require more trials. No matter how secure a graphical password scheme is, the password can always be found by a brute force attack. In this paper, we distinguish two types of guessing attacks: automatic guessing attacks apply an automatic trial and error process but S can be manually constructed whereas human guessing attacks apply a manual trial and error process. CaRP adopts a completely different approach to counter automatic guessing attacks. It aims at realizing the following equation: $p(T = \rho | T_1, \dots, T_{n-1}) = p(T = \rho)$, $n \geq 1$ (3)

in an automatic guessing attack. Eq. (3) means that each trial is computationally independent of other trials. Specifically, no matter how many trials executed previously, the chance of finding the password in the current trial always remains the same. That is, a password in S can be found only probabilistically by automatic guessing (including brute-force) attacks, in contrast to existing graphical password schemes where a password can be found within a fixed number of trials. How to achieve the goal? If a new image is used for each trial, and images of different trials are independent of each other, then Eq. (3) holds. Independent images among different login attempts must contain invariant information so that the authentication server can verify claimants.

By examining the ecosystem of user authentication, we noticed that human users enter passwords during authentication, whereas the trial and error process in guessing attacks is executed automatically. The capability gap between humans and machines can be exploited to generate images so that they are computationally independent yet retain invariants that only humans can identify, and thus use as passwords. The invariants among images must be intractable to machines to thwart automatic guessing attacks. This requirement is the same as that of an ideal Captcha [25], leading to creation of CaRP, a new family of graphical passwords robust to online guessing attacks.

Converting Captcha to CaRP:

In principle, any visual Captcha scheme relying on recognizing two or more predefined types of objects can be converted to a CaRP. All text Captcha schemes and most IRCs meet this requirement. Those IRCs that rely on recognizing a single predefined type of objects can also be converted to CaRPs in general by adding more types of objects. In practice, conversion of a specific Captcha scheme to a CaRP scheme typically requires a case by case study, in order to ensure both security and usability.

We will present in Sections IV and V several CaRPs built on top of text and image-recognition Captcha schemes. Some IRCs rely on identifying objects whose types are not predefined. A typical example is Cortcha [25] which relies on context-based object recognition wherein the object to be recognized can be of any type. These IRCs cannot be converted into CaRP since a set of pre-defined object types is essential for constructing a password.

D. User Authentication With CaRP Schemes:

Like other graphical passwords, we assume that CaRP-schemes are used with additional protection such as secure channels between clients and the authentication server through Transport Layer Security (TLS). A typical way to apply CaRP schemes in user authentication is as follows. The authentication server AS stores a salt s and a hash value $H(\rho, s)$ for each user ID, where ρ is the password of the account and not stored. A CaRP password is a sequence of visual object IDs or clickable-points of visual objects that the user selects. Upon receiving a login request, AS generates a CaRP image, records the locations of the objects in the image, and sends the image to the user to click her password. The coordinates of the clicked points are recorded and sent to AS along

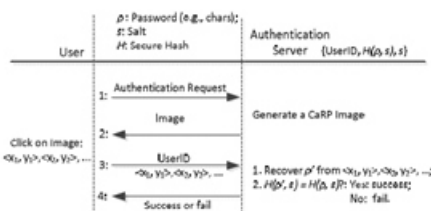


Fig. 1. Flowchart of basic CaRP authentication

with the user ID. AS maps the received coordinates onto the CaRP image, and recovers a sequence of visual object IDs or clickable points of visual objects, ρ , that the user clicked on the image. Then AS retrieves salt s of the account, calculates the hash value of ρ with the salt, and compares the result with the hash value stored for the account. Authentication succeeds only if the two hash values match. This process is called the basic CaRP authentication and shown in Fig. 1. Advanced authentication with CaRP, for example,

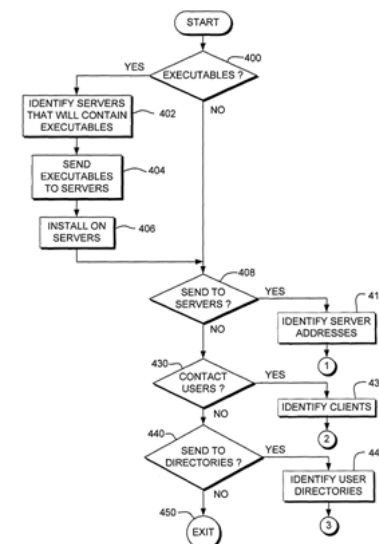
Challenge-response will be presented in Section V-B. We assume in the following that CaRP is used with the basic CaRP authentication unless explicitly stated otherwise. To recover a password successfully, each user-clicked point must belong to a single object or a clickable-point of an object. Objects in a CaRP image may overlap slightly with neighboring objects to resist segmentation. Users should not click inside an overlapping region to avoid ambiguity in identifying the clicked object. This is not a usability concern in practice since overlapping areas generally take a tiny portion of an object.

THE PREDOMINANT PART OF THE PROJECT:

The CaRP is designed with a sequence of visual objects. Per view of traditional recognition-based graphical passwords, recognition-based CaRP seems to have access to an infinite number of different visual objects. We present recognition-based CaRP schemes and a variation next. A password is a sequence of clickable points. A character can typically contribute multiple clickable points. Therefore TextPoints has a much larger password space than Click-Text. Image Generation. TextPoints images look identical to ClickText images and are generated in the same way except that the locations of all the clickable points are checked to ensure that none of them is occluded or its tolerance region overlaps another clickable point's. We simply generate another image if the check fails. As such failures occur rarely due to the fact that clickable points are all internal points; the restriction due to the check has a negligible impact on the security of generated images.

Authentication:

When creating a password, all clickable points are marked on corresponding characters in a CaRP image for a user to select. During authentication, the user first identifies her chosen characters, and clicks the password points on the right characters. The authentication server maps each user-clicked point on the image to find the closest clickable point. If their distance exceeds a tolerable range, login fails. Otherwise a sequence of clickable points is recovered, and its hash value is computed to compare with the stored value.



It is worth comparing potential password points between TextPoints and traditional click-based graphical passwords such as PassPoints [5]. In PassPoints, salient points should be avoided since they are readily picked up by adversaries to mount dictionary attacks, but avoiding salient points would increase the burden to remember a password. This conflict does not exist in TextPoints. Clickable points in TextPoints are salient points of their characters and thus help remember a password, but cannot be exploited by bots since they are both dynamic (as compared to static points in traditional graphical password schemes) and contextual:

- **Dynamic:** locations of clickable points and their contexts (i.e., characters) vary from one image to another. The clickable points in one image are computationally independent of the clickable points in another image, as we will see in Section VI-B.
- **Contextual:** Whether a similarly structured point is a clickable point or not depends on its context. It is only if within the right context, i.e., at the right location of a right character.

CRITICAL EVALUATION:

Guessing attacks predominantly affected the business of B2B. The financial transactions of the banks should be kept online. So that the business of the banks will get improved. To keep the financial transactions a strong online security mechanism should be developed. The need of a security mechanism for financial transactions conducted by the financial institutions is very high. The security mechanism should act against the guessing attacks. Guessing attacks are more powerful and breaking the passwords of the online financial transactions and stealing the data. The present proposed project is development of a security mechanism against the guessing attacks. The proposed project is also creating a security layer for the financial transactions and obstructs the intruders into the financial online applications. The research studies revealed that the investigations have done and found a measure with the password security. The mechanism has run for a period until the hackers started to break these passwords with their creative mechanism. Then the researchers have developed the advanced encryption standards against the hackers' attacks. Those increased security mechanism have not endure much time in protecting the web applications.

SECURITY IMPLEMENTATION:

Computational intractability in recognizing objects in

CaRP images is fundamental to CaRP. Existing analyses on Captcha security were mostly case by case or used an approximate process. No theoretic security model has been established yet. Object segmentation is considered as a computationally expensive, combinatorially-hard problem [30], which modern text Captcha schemes rely on. According to [30], the complexity of object segmentation, C , is exponentially dependent of the number M of objects contained in a challenge, and polynomially dependent of the size N of the Captcha alphabet: $C = \alpha M^P(N)$, where $\alpha > 1$ is a parameter, and $P()$ is a polynomial function. A Captcha challenge typically contains 6 to 10 characters, whereas a CaRP image typically contains 30 or more characters. The complexity to break a Click-Text image is about $\alpha 30^P(N) / (\alpha 10^P(N)) = \alpha 20$ times the complexity to break a Captcha challenge generated by its underlying Captcha scheme. Therefore ClickText is much harder to break than its underlying Captcha scheme. Furthermore, characters in a CaRP scheme are arranged two dimensionally, further increasing segmentation difficulty due to one more dimension to segment. As a result, we can reduce distortions in ClickText images for improved usability yet maintain the same security level as the underlying text Captcha.

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS:

Usability. Among all the recorded login attempts, 24.4% failed. Tests after a larger interval tended to have more failed attempts. Some participants contributed significantly more failed attempts than others. At the end of tests, 40 (100%) participants remembered their PassPoints passwords, 39 (97.5%) remembered their passwords of both ClickText and AnimalGrid, and 34 (85%) remembered their Text passwords. One participant forgot the AnimalGrid password at the one hour test, and another one forgot the ClickText password at the one-week test. For Text, two participants forgot their passwords at the one-week test, and four forgot at the three-week test. PassPoints scored the best in memorability whereas Text scored the worst. This may be partially due to the fact that hotspots were allowed for PassPoints passwords, and that Text passwords had a much larger alphabet than both ClickText and AnimalGrid.

CONCLUSION:

The revolutionary experimental research work has been done in incorporating the security with encrypted mechanism.

The revolutionary changes and innovative changes have been done. The digital encryption standards have been deployed to hide the real password of the user and tried to protect the interest of online financial application users. All the trails have become in vain. Even digital encrypted textual passwords also decrypted with the wise characteristics of hackers and intruders. The hackers again started looting the valuable data of the financial organizations. The hackers and attackers have adopted sophisticated cracking techniques for textual passwords and intrude into the applications and caused irrevocable damage to the application storing data. Overall, our work is one step forward in the paradigm of using hard AI problems for security. Of reasonable security and usability and practical applications, CaRP has good potential for refinements, which call for useful future work. More importantly, we expect CaRP to inspire new inventions of such AI based security primitives.

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