

# Secure E-Health: Managing Risks to Patient Personal Identity

*Haryadi Amran D.*

*Mike Yuliana*

*Reni Soelistijorini*

*Amang Sudarsono*

Electronic Engineering Polytechnic Institute of Surabaya, Indonesia

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## Abstract

As we are becoming a digital society, it is very important for us to protect the security of personal identity in any transactions. One of the efforts to maintain the security of personal identity is by unrevealed our data more than necessary. Anonymous credential allows an organization to give a credential to a user. This credential consists of user attribute such as address and date of birth. By using this credential, the user can prove the ownership to the third party without revealing the information that contained in credential information more than necessary. This paper proposes secure e-health system that focuses on proving protocol to reveal and prove some of the patient attributes while others remain hidden, so the security of personal identity more awake. The experimental results showed that the computational time of each proving protocol less than 1 second.

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**Keywords:** Identity, anonymous, credential, attribute, e-health

## Introduction

Currently, there are many using the Internet to access a variety of information about e-commerce, e-banking, and e-health, so the number of electronic transactions is increasing. One of the efforts to secure transactions is authentication by a variety of media including mobile phone, RFID tags, and also electronic identity card. The authentication mechanism requires the information of user's personal identity, and this leads to reduced privacy of users because the transactions can be linked. Lack of privacy is a big problem in the case of trust of the user.

Anonymous credential is a technology that allows an organization to give a credential to a user (Bichsel *et.al*, 2009). This credential consists of user attribute such as address and date of birth. By using this credential, the

user can prove the ownership to the third party without revealing the information that contained in credential information more than necessary (Yuliana *et.al*, 2014). For instance, the user can prove the ownership of a credential that contains the user aged over 21 by using an ID card, by not revealing other data unnecessary. This is the reason why anonymous credential becoming very popular because the system can minimize the misuse of data by parties who are not responsible.

There are many types of research about anonymous credential with various methods or algorithms (Yuliana *et.al*, 2015). In addition to the basic functions of an anonymous credential, there is some research on the development of anonymous credentials such as enhancement of proving attributes (Belenky *et al*, 2009), an efficiency of coding attributes (Sudarsono *et al*, 2011), and implementation on Java card (Camenisch *et al*, 2008). However, that research only focuses on the computational complexity of each scheme, rarely that focus on the implementation and performance of the system.

In this research, it will be proposed secure e-health system that can improve the security of personal identity using anonymous credential. This system allows the user to reveal and prove some of the attributes while others remain hidden not only using CL signature but also by logical relations proof that includes AND, OR, NOT relations on several attributes, so the security of personal identity more awake.

We structure the remainder of this paper as follows. In section 2, related works of personal identity are described, and logic relation proof will be explained. In section 3, we describe secure e-health system design. The proposed secure e-health system will be discussed in section 4. A prototype implementation and performance measurement will be tested at section 5. Finally, we conclude our paper at section 6.

## **Related Works**

Some research discusses the authentication system to secure personal data (Maji *et al*, 2011), and also anonymous authentication in e-health system which satisfies patient's personal information protection (i.e., health status information) from other patients, doctors, or pharmacists using Anonymous Credential System based CL signature and construct the system by Java programming language (Yuliana *et.al*, 2014).

The other authors extend the anonymous credential such that selection of attributes disclosure becomes more efficient by encoding attributes as prime numbers (Guo *et al*, 2013). This method provides significant advantages for a device that has limited computing capabilities such as smart card. Some other research also discusses the efficiency of attributes, thereby reducing computational complexity (Guo *et al*, 2014).

Anonymous credential system allows users to prove the ownership of the credential, by minimizing the disclosure of information. Some research extends proving protocol of anonymous credential based CL-signature with logic relation proof that includes AND, OR and NOT (Guo *et al*, 2014). The results show the complexity of computational is constantly based on the amount of exponentiation and pairing. Other researchers discuss security in e-health systems that focused on the security of e commerce, not personal identity (Androulaki *et al*, 2011).

**Logic Relations Proof**

Anonymous system consists of several rules for issuers, recipients, users, and verifiers. On issuing protocol, credential created by the issuers, and recipients will prove the ownership of credential by using proving protocol to the verifiers. Assumed users obtain CL credential that consists of  $E$ , for example, signature( $A, e, v$ ) on the message  $m_0$  and  $m_1$  where  $m_1 = E$ .

**AND Relation**

Users convince the verifier that credential contains an attribute with a specific value by using AND relation. Assumed attribute encode with prime  $e_j$ , proving that can be done to convince the verifier that  $e_j$  part of  $E$  is:

$$PK\{(\varepsilon, v', \mu_0, \mu'_1):$$

$$Z \equiv \pm R_0^{\mu_0} (R_1^{e_j})^{\mu'_1} A'^{\varepsilon} S^{v'} \pmod n \wedge$$

$$\mu_0 \in \pm \{0,1\}^{l_m} \wedge \mu'_1 \in \pm \{0,1\}^{l_m - l_t} \wedge$$

$$\varepsilon \in [2^{l_e - 1} + 1, 2^{l_e} - 1]\} \tag{1}$$

$n$  is 2 primes and  $t$  to be worth  $\pm 1$ . If  $Z \equiv \pm R_0^{\mu_0} R_1^E A'^{\varepsilon} S^{v'}$  then  $R_1^E = (R_1^{e_j})^{\mu'_1}$  and  $E = e_1 \mu'_1 \pmod{p'q'}$ , so  $E = e_j \mu'_1$  to be worth integer and  $e_j$  is a factor of  $E$ .

If there are some attributes that encode with primes  $e_i, e_j, e_l$  then proving that can be done to convince the verifier  $e_i, e_j, e_l$  part of  $E$  is :

$$PK\{(\varepsilon, v', \mu_0, \mu'_1):$$

$$Z \equiv \pm R_0^{\mu_0} (R_1^{e_i e_j e_l})^{\mu'_1} A'^{\varepsilon} S^{v'} \pmod n \wedge$$

$$\mu_0 \in \pm \{0,1\}^{l_m} \wedge \mu'_1 \in \pm \{0,1\}^{l_m - 3l_t} \wedge$$

$$\varepsilon \in [2^{l_e - 1} + 1, 2^{l_e} - 1]\} \tag{2}$$

**NOT Relation**

Users convince the verifier that credential does not contain an attribute with a specific value by using NOT relation. Proving that  $e_j \nmid E$  can be done by showing that  $aE + be_j = 1$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  would not exist if

$e_j|E$ . After getting a value of  $a$  and  $b$ , users generate random number  $r$  and compute commitment  $D = g^E h^r \text{ mod } n$  to be sent to the verifier.

$$\begin{aligned}
 PK\{(\varepsilon, v', \mu_0, \mu_1, \alpha, \beta, \rho, \rho')\}: \\
 Z &\equiv \pm R_0^{\mu_0} R_1^{\mu_1} A'^{\varepsilon} S^{v'} \pmod{n} \wedge \\
 D &\equiv \pm g^{\mu_1} h^{\rho} \text{ mod } n \wedge g \equiv \pm D^{\alpha} (g^{c_j})^{\beta} h^{\rho'} \text{ mod } n \wedge \\
 \mu_0, \mu_1 &\in \pm \{0, 1\}^{l_m} \wedge \varepsilon \in [2^{l_e-1} + 1, 2^{l_e} - 1]
 \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

From  $D \equiv \pm g^{\mu_1} h^{\rho} \text{ mod } n$  and  $g \equiv \pm D^{\alpha} (g^{e_j})^{\beta} h^{\rho'} \text{ mod } n$ , it could be calculated  $g \equiv \pm g^{\mu_1 \alpha} h^{\rho \alpha} (g^{e_j})^{\beta} h^{\rho'}$ . If user calculates  $\log_g h$  then  $\mu_1 \alpha + e_j \beta = 1$ .  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  will exist if  $e_j$  and  $\mu_1$  are co-prime so  $e_j | \mu_1$ . Because  $\mu_1$  contained in CL signature, then it can be concluded that  $e_j$  is not one of the attribute that encodes in  $\mu_1$ .

**OR Relation**

Users convince the verifier that credential contains one of the attributes with a specific value by using OR relation. Proving that credential contains one of the attributes  $\{e_1, \dots, e_l\}$  could be done by sending Commitment  $D$  to verifier using this protocol:

$$\begin{aligned}
 PK\{(\varepsilon, v', \mu_0, \mu_1, \alpha, \rho, \rho')\}: \\
 Z &\equiv \pm R_0^{\mu_0} R_1^{\mu_1} A'^{\varepsilon} S^{v'} \pmod{n} \wedge \\
 D &\equiv \pm g^{\mu_1} h^{\rho} \text{ mod } n \wedge g^{\prod_i^l e_i} \equiv \pm D^{\alpha} h^{\rho'} \text{ mod } n \wedge \\
 \mu_0, \mu_1 &\in \pm \{0, 1\}^{l_m} \wedge \varepsilon \in [2^{l_e-1} + 1, 2^{l_e} - 1]
 \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Credential contained an attribute  $e$ , so we get the value of  $a$  where  $ae = \prod_i^l e_i$ . If  $e$  is not in the list  $a$  then  $e$  does not divide the product.

**The Proposed Secure E-Health System Design**

In this section will be proposed a system that can improve the security of personal identity by using anonymous credential system.. This system allows the user to reveal and prove some of the attributes while others remain hidden, so the security of personal identity more awake.

**Privacy Requirements**

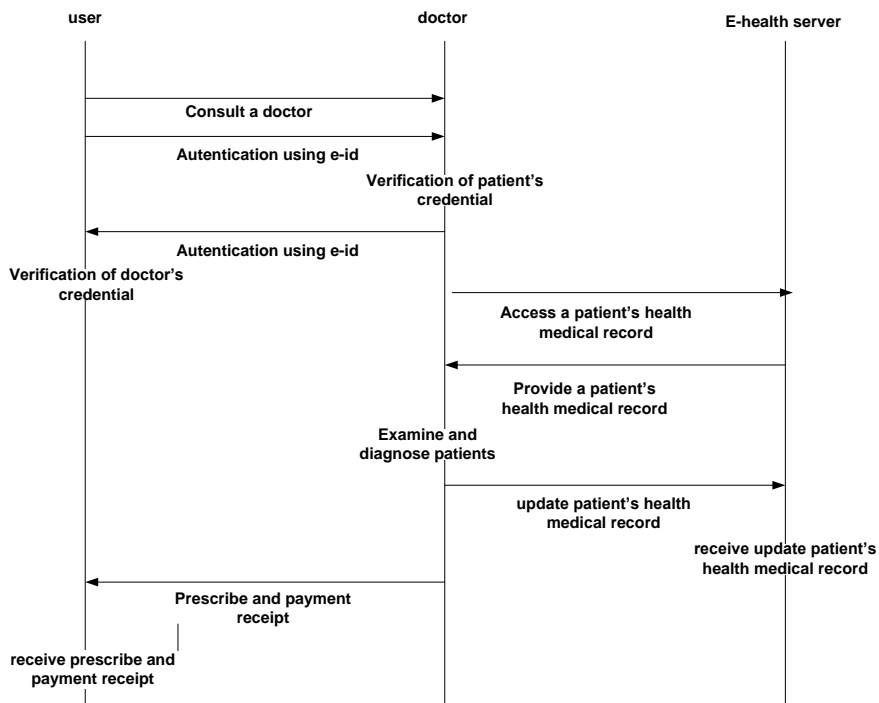
The ability of the existing system in the hospital to maintain the privacy of personal identity of patients will increase the trust. Doctors only know partial information of the patient's personal identity.

**Security Requirements**

There are two types of attributes, namely strong and weak attributes. Strong attributes are unique for each user such as address, and phone number

while weak attributes could be the same for each user such as name, and blood type. In this system, the strong attributes contain sensitive information that remained hidden when proving while weak attributes will be revealed. Disclosure of weak attributes must fulfill the security requirements where the user can select the attributes that will be revealed to prevent the disclosure of more information than required.

### **Proof of Attributes Protocol**



**Figure 1.** Protocol of consult a doctor.

In this research, a credential from several attributes loaded into e-id, where e-id is obtained during the process of registration and used for the authentication process. Fig. 1 shows the protocol when consulting a doctor. It can be seen that the doctor can see the patient's health medical record if the authentication success performed by doctors and patients.

### **Prototype Implementation and proof of attributes testing**

In this section will be explained the implementation of the prototype system, the results of testing proving algorithms and system performance. Specifications of Personal Computer can be seen in Table 1 and RFID reader and tag can be seen in Fig. 2.

**Table 1.** Specification of Personal Computer

Specifications	Remarks
Operation System	Microsoft Windows 7 Professional 64-Bit (Build 7601)
Processor	Intel Core i5-2450M (2.50 GHz, 3MB L3 Cache) (4 CPUs)
Memory	8 GB RAM



**Figure 2.** RFID reader and tag

Attributes are information that used during the registration process, in which the attributes information consists of name, issuance modes (known, hidden) and type (int, String, enumeration). Figure 3 shows the registration form, in which the attributes that are used include name, address, phone number, identity card number, sex, birth date, blood type, civil status, and employment. Address, phone number, and identity card number are strong attributes and the others are weak attributes. the issuance mode of strong attributes are hidden and weak attributes are known, so the user that acts as prover knows all the attribute values but the verifier only knows weak attributes.

Name	<input type="text" value="yuliana"/>
Address	<input type="text" value="Surabaya"/>
Phone Number	<input type="text" value="08155402453"/>
Identity Card Number	<input type="text" value="7896543287"/>
Sex	<input type="radio"/> Male <input checked="" type="radio"/> Female
Birth Date	<input type="text" value="23-January-2015"/>
Blood Type	<input type="text" value="O"/>
Civil Status	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Married <input type="radio"/> Not Married
Employment	<input type="text" value="Lecturer"/>
<input type="button" value="Submit"/>	

**Figure 3.** Registration form.

**Proof of Attributes Testing**

In this section will be performed some testing which includes proof of CL signature, proof of AND, OR and NOT relations.

***Proof of CL Signature***

In this experimental test, it will be proved that the value of  $A, e, v$  are the signature of attributes. Fig. 3 show the example of signature from 9 attributes. The value that will be obtained when authentication and verification process is the success are  $t$  (proof process) and  $\hat{t}$  (verify process) can be seen in Fig. 5. The test results showed that the proof is not rejected.

```
Signature
=====
A:878053...153885(1023)
e:259344...439363(597)
v:208982...150372(1427)
number of attributes :9
id1 : name
id2 : address
id3 : phone number
id4 : identity card number
id5 : sex
id6 : birth date
id7 : blood type
id8 : civil status
id9 : employment
```

**Figure 4.** Example of signature

```
proof CL signature
values of t : 34567812379099934578932606978020598613049585(

verify CL signature
values of t hat : 3456781237909993457893260697802059861304(
```

**Figure 5.** Proof and verify CL Signature

***Proof of AND Relation***

In this experimental test, it will be proved that the patient will get medical check fee discount if the patient was a lecturer and not married. The value that will be obtained when authentication and verification process is the success are  $\tilde{C}, \tilde{C}_0$  (proof process) and  $\hat{C}, \hat{C}_0$  (verify process) that can be seen in Fig. 6. The test results showed that the proof is not rejected and the patient can get medical check fee discount.

```

proof AND relation
id 1: lecturer and id 2: not married
value of t
value of C : 1175642345567707665554335667788654799005
value of C zero : 232839048474664647474849494949499

verify AND relation
value of C hat: 1175642345567707665554335667788654799
value of C zero hat : 232839048474664647474849494949494
    
```

**Figure 6.** Proof and verify AND relation

***Proof of OR Relation***

In this experimental test, it will be proved that the patient will get medical check fee discount if the patient was a lecturer or not married. The value that will be obtained when authentication and verification process success is  $\tilde{T}_1, \tilde{T}_2, \tilde{T}_3, \tilde{T}_4, \tilde{T}_5, \tilde{T}_6$  (proof process) and  $\hat{T}_1, \hat{T}_2, \hat{T}_3, \hat{T}_4, \hat{T}_5, \hat{T}_6$  (verify process) that can be seen in Fig. 7. The test results showed that the proof is not rejected and the patient can get medical check fee discount.

```

proof OR relation
id 1: lecturer or id 2: not married
value of t
value of T1 : 4353673849037351267328393938373737331
value of T2 : 536738399373663636363636363636363638252
value of T3 : 16373738393939395220393782936383937127
value of T4 : 4728912427396514373090273545272938373E
value of T5 : 3535366297367653389930303937676778383E
value of T6 : 2324525667736904084665326278983637388E

verify OR relation
value of T1 hat : 435367384903735126732839393837377E
value of T2 hat : 536738399373663636363636363636363E
value of T3 hat : 163737383939393952203937829363839E
value of T4 hat : 472891242739651437309027354527293E
value of T5 hat : 353536629736765338993030393767677E
value of T6 hat : 2324525667736904084665326278983637
    
```

**Figure 7.** Proof and verify OR relation

***Proof of NOT Relation***

In this experimental test, it will be proved that the patient will get medical check fee discount if the patient's civil status not married. The value that will be obtained when authentication and verification process is the success are  $\tilde{C}, \tilde{C}_c$  (proof process) and  $\hat{C}, \hat{C}_c$  (verify process) that can be seen in Fig. 8. The test results showed that the proof is not rejected and the patient can get medical check fee discount.



```

proof NOT Relation
idl : not married
values of C : 14353638422637894940484744884949498474653443
values of C comm : 235266237427864746546347283758900087908

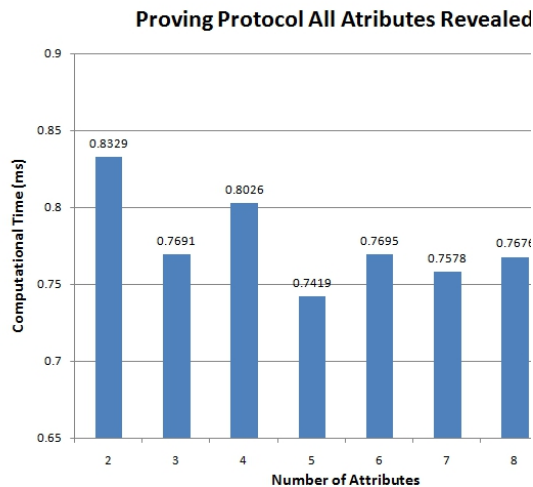
verify NOT Relation
values of C hat : 1435363842263789494048474488494949847465:
values of C comm hat : 23526623742786474654634728375890008'
    
```

**Figure 8.** Proof and verify NOT relation

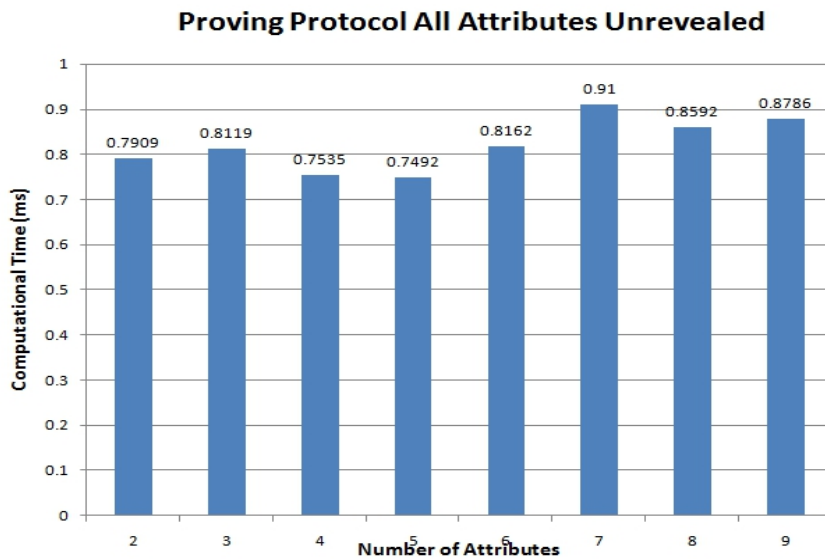
### E-Health System Performance

In this section will be tested computational time for proving protocol. There are 3 kinds of schemes, namely testing for revealed, unrevealed and combination. For proving protocol with all attributes revealed, the attributes have issuance mode known, so when authentication process all of these attributes will be revealed to the verifier. Fig. 9 shows the computational time of proving protocol for 2 through 9 attributes. The test results show that the computational time from 2 through 9 attributes do not have a lot of time difference. The highest computational time is 0.8866 seconds occurs when the number of attributes 9.

For proving protocol with attributes unrevealed, the attributes have issuance mode hidden, so when authentication process all of these attributes will not be revealed to the verifier. Fig. 10 shows the computational time of proving protocol for 2 through 9 attributes. The test results show that the computational time from 2 through 9 attributes do not have a lot of time difference. The highest computational time is 0.91 seconds occurs when the number of attributes 7.

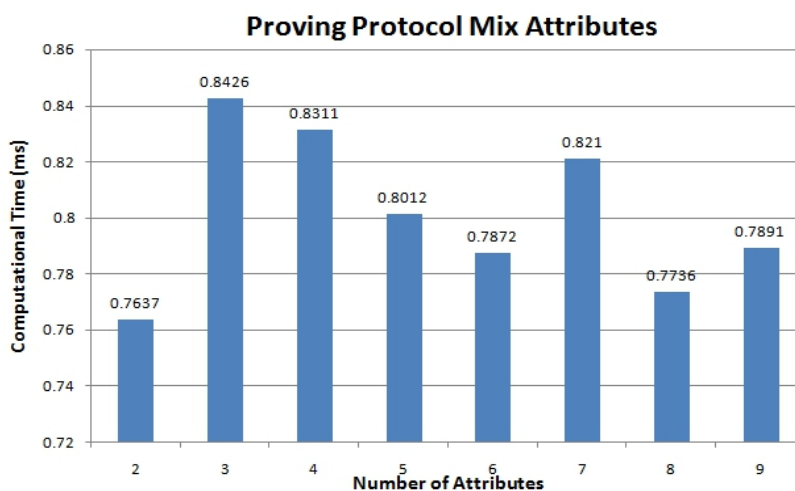


**Figure 9.** Proving protocol with all attributes revealed



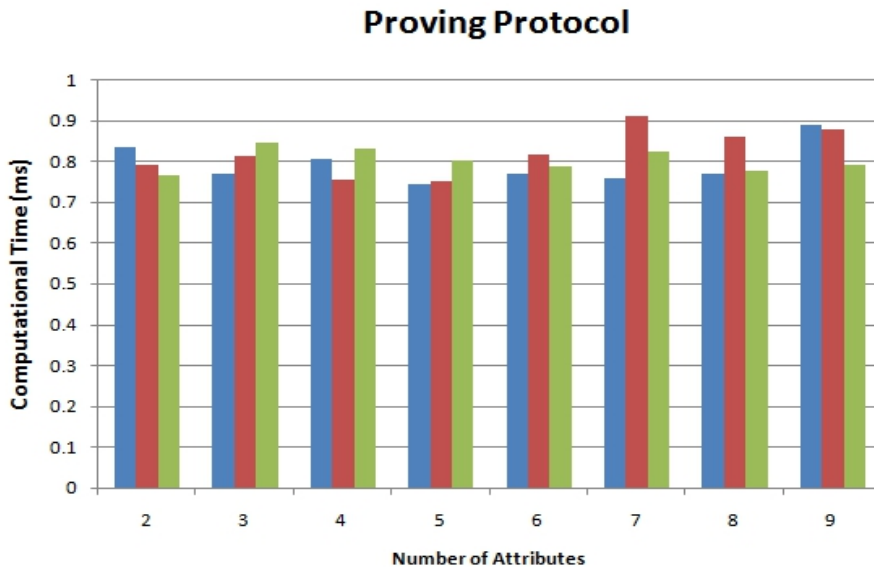
**Figure 10.** Proving protocol with all attributes unrevealed

For proving protocol with a combination of both attribute, the attributes have issuance mode known and hidden, so when authentication process some of these attributes will be revealed to the verifier and the others remain hidden. Fig. 11 shows the computational time of proving protocol for 2 through 9 attributes. The test results show that the computational time from 2 through 9 attributes do not have a lot of time difference. The highest computational time is 0.8426 seconds occurs when the number of attributes 3.



**Figure 11.** Proving Protocol with mix attributes

Fig. 12 shows the comparison of computational time from 3 kinds of proving protocol, where the results showed that no significant difference in computational time for different number and types of attributes. The computational time of proving protocol is less than 1 second.



**Figure 12.** Comparison of 3 kinds of proving protocol.

## Conclusion

We proposed secure e-health system design that can be fulfilled the privacy and security requirements. The system allows the user to reveal and prove some of the attributes while others remain hidden, so the security of personal identity will be more secure. Proof attributes testing includes the selection of attributes disclosure, proof of CL signature, proof of AND, OR and NOT relations. The computational time for each proving protocol is less than 1 second. Overall it can be said that the system designed was able to increase the security of personal identity, thereby reducing the misuse of personal identity by unauthorized parties.

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