

# Public Verifiable Signcryption and Cluster Head Selection for Body Sensor Networks

Jawaid Iqbal<sup>1</sup>, Noor Ul Amin<sup>1</sup>, Arif Iqbal Umar<sup>1</sup>, Nizamuddin<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Information Technology, Hazara University Mansehra Pakistan

<sup>2</sup>Iqra National University Peshawar Pakistan

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## ABSTRACT

Signcryption is the logical combination of the signature and encryption which provides sender authentication and confidentiality. Authenticity of a sender can only be proved after unsigncrypting the signcrypted message. A judge or third party can only prove the authenticity of sender after infringing the confidentiality. The advantage of public verifiable signcryption is that a third party or judge can prove authenticity of a sender without infringing the confidentiality or getting the private key of the receiver. Third party just needs the signcrypted message and some other parameters. In this work we have proposed a public verifiable signcryption based scheme which satisfy the necessary security parameters along with public verifiability. Cluster head selection is performed by rotating the cluster head on the basis of the energy level. This scheme is efficient for the resource constrained environment of Body Sensor Networks.

**KEYWORDS:** Hyper Elliptic Curve Cryptography; Signcryption, AES; Clustering; Public Verifiability.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Body Sensor Networks (BSNs) are special type of WSN in which tiny biosensors deployed inside/outside of a human body to monitor vital signs like EEG, ECG, EMG, blood pressure, body temperature for early finding of the different diseases of human body along with reducing the healthcare costs.

BSNs deal with sensitive physiological information which need of strong secure cryptographic functions (i.e. encryption, authentication, integrity, public verifiability etc) to protect patient information against malicious attacks data can only be accessed by the legal users and securely transferred and stored in medical server. Strong security requires extensive resources which is not optimal for BSNs so light weight cryptographic solutions are required. Secure key management and distribution along with efficient cluster head selection and rotation is required to minimize the cost and increase BSN life time.

These two separate algorithms of data encryption and digital signatures are joint into a single operation called signcryption by Y. Zheng [1].

HECC is suitable cryptosystem for resource constraint environment of BSNs as compared to other cryptographic techniques, due to shorter parameters of HECC which provide equal security as compared to other public key infrastructure algorithms. HECC used  $2^{80}$  bits key, ECC  $2^{160}$  bits and RSA  $2^{1024}$  bits in our proposed scheme selection of efficient CH will improve the overall performance of BSNs.

$$\mathbb{C}: y^2 + h(x)y = f(x) \quad (1)$$

$$2y + h(x) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$h(x)'y - f(x)' = 0 \quad (3)$$

The order of the Jacobian  $\#J_c(\mathbb{F}_q)$

$$|(\sqrt{q} - 1)^{2g}| \leq \#J_c(\mathbb{F}_q) \leq |(\sqrt{q} + 1)^{2g}|$$

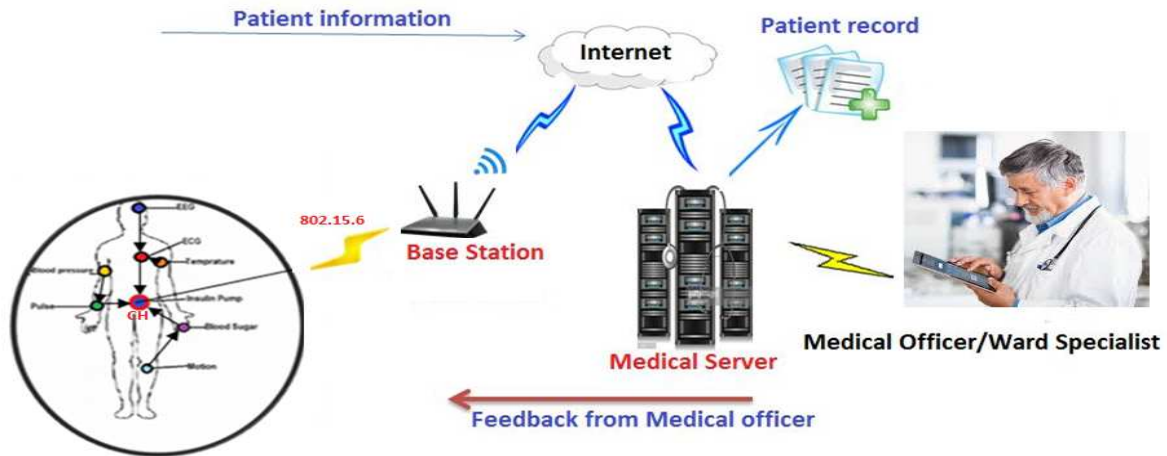
**2. Related Work.** A BSNs is used to collect sensitive data from bodies used for multiple purposes. An in depth literature review exposed contributions and limitations of the schemes discussed in this section.

In scheme [2] energy saving routing architecture with a uniform clustering algorithm for WBSNS is used. In which authors mainly focus to balance the traffic load between clusters along to reduce information transmission distance to cluster head but the selection method of cluster head in proposed model is not

\* **Corresponding Author:** Jawaid Iqbal, Department of Information Technology, Hazara University Mansehra Pakistan. jawaid5825@gmail.com

suitable for BSN because centralized approach consume more energy. In scheme[3] a new approach LAEEBA (Link-aware and Energy Efficient scheme for Body Sensor Networks) is used which used single-hop as well as multi-hop communication channel for data transmission to increase the network life time. The limitation of the proposed scheme is that only two selected node communicate with sink and failure of two nodes can down the entire network. In scheme [4] a novel algorithm for energy saving SECA is established to overcome the energy consumption problems in WSN. SECA is used to obtained uniform cluster algorithm to computes efficient routing for data transmission from sensors to sink node. The main flaw of the scheme is lack of data security. In scheme [5] a new clustering algorithm is proposed to enhance the network life time of WSN. In proposed scheme randomly Cluster Head (CH) is selected which is suitable for data transmission to a long distance. Randomly selection of CH is suitable for increasing the overall efficiency of the network. The main drawback of the scheme is traffic balance overhead and quality of services. In scheme [6] proposed a new data dissemination protocol for wireless body to body communication in BSN which is basically consist of two approaches one is distributed and second is cluster based approach. Exceed from the predefine standard range of WBSNs which is limitation of the scheme. In scheme [7] proposed new routing algorithm which have capability to support mobility and selection of CH on the basis of residual energy plus its distance from base station. The biosensor node with slightest cost function value is selected as forwarder. It is only suitable for single body one tier architecture scheme which shortcoming of the proposed scheme. In scheme [8] IEEE 802.15.6 standard is defined which is specially design both for medical and non-medical applications. It consists on three levels between sensor nodes and BS. No security, authentication level and encryption levels. Security services concentrate on key generation, key distribution along with message authentication. Diffie–Hellman key technique is used for the generation and distribution of keys, MAC for message authentication and AES for ciphering of data. In scheme[9] efficient key management technique is proposed using public key infrastructure RSA and DHECC for WSN which is not suitable for resource constraint environment of BSN due to high cost . In scheme [10] a novel hybrid technique is proposed for secure patient information from source node (biosensor nodes) to target position (medical server) using RSA and symmetric cipher which is inefficient for BSN due to long key size.

**3. Proposed Scheme.** The proposed network model consist of body sensor, base station and medical sever as is shown in figure.1. We assume that the body sensor nodes have limited resources while base station has high.



**Figure 1. Network Model of Proposed Scheme**

Our proposed scheme has the following phases.

- Initialization Phase
- Secret Session Key Establishment Phase
- Public Verifiability Phase
- Cluster Head Selection Phase
- Secure Data Transmission Phase
- Cluster Head Rotation Phase
- Key updating Phase

Public parameters are shown in Table 1.

**Table1.** Notation Guide

Notation	Description
$S_i$	Body sensor/Biosensor node $i$
$C$	Hyper Elliptic Curve
$D$	A divisor of large prime order $n$ in $J_c(F_q)$ , $n \geq 2^{80}$
$\phi$	A function which map a divisor to integer value
$EL_{S_i}$	Energy level of sensor node $i$
$Pu_{BS}$	Public key of base station
$Pr_{BS}$	Private key of base station
$Pu_{S_i}$	Public key of biosensor node
$Pr_{S_i}$	Private key of biosensor node
$k_{p_i}$	Secret session key
$E_k/D_k$	Encryption / Decryption with key $k$
$h/h_k$	Hash / Keyed Hash Function
$m/c$	Message/Cipher text
<b>M-EXP</b>	Modular Exponentiation
<b>ECPM</b>	Elliptic Curve Point Multiplication
$\perp$	Reject

**3.1. Initialization Phase.** Initially private and public keys of BS ( $Pr_{BS}$ ,  $Pu_{BS}$ ) are preloaded on BS, private key  $Pr_{S_i}$ , public key  $Pu_{S_i}$  of biosensor node along with  $Pu_{BS}$  are preloaded on sensor node and then sensor nodes are deployed in body of the patient to continuously monitor vital sign of human body. All deployed  $S_i$  public key ( $Pu_{S_i}$ ) is also forwarded to BS as well.

**3.2. Secret Session Key Establishment Phase.**

In this section secret session key is established among each body sensor and related BS using Signcryption[11]. To achieve the above task algorithm (1) is performed:

**Bio Sensor**

1. Each bio sensor  $S_i$  on patient  $P_i$  generates a random number  $r_{S_i}$  where  $i \in \{1,2,3, \dots n - 1\}$
2. Each bio sensor  $S_i$  on patient  $P_i$  has energy level  $EL_{S_i}$

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**ALGORITHM 1:** Signcryption( $d, r_{S_i}, EL_{S_i}, Pu_{BS}, Pr_{S_i}, Pu_{S_i}$ )

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- a. Select an integer  $d \in \{1, 2, \dots n - 1\}$
  - b. Computes  $K_1 = d.D$
  - c. Computes  $K_2 = D. Pu_{BS}$
  - d. Computes  $r = h(K_1 || r_{S_i} || EL_{S_i})$
  - e. Computes  $c = E_{K_2}(r_{S_i} || EL_{S_i})$
  - f. Computes  $s = \left( \frac{d}{(r + Pr_{S_i})} \right) \text{mod } n$
  - g. Computes  $z = r.D$
  - h. Forwarded signcrypted text  $(c, z, s)$  to BS
- 

**Base Station**

BS Unsigncrypt the Signcrypted text  $(c, z, s)$  received from each biosensor  $S_i$  using algorithm(2)

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**ALGORITHM 2:** Unsigncryption ( $Pu_{BS}, Pu_{S_i}, Pr_{BS}, c, z, s$ )

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- a. Computes  $(K_1, K_2)$
  - b.  $K_1 = s(Pr_{BS} + z)$
  - c.  $K_2 = s(Pu_{S_i}(Pr_{BS} + z))$
  - d. Computes  $(r_{S_i} || EL_{S_i}) = D_{K_2}(c)$
  - e. Check  $r.D = z$  if satisfied accept the random number  $r_{S_i}$  and energy level  $EL_{S_i}$  otherwise reject
  - f. BS computes round session key  $k_{P_i}$  for patient  $p_i$  by selecting two  $r_{S_i}$  from those bio sensor  $S_i$  installed on same patient  $p_i$  as:  $k_{P_i} = r_{S_i} \oplus r_{S_{i+1}}$
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**ALGORITHM 3: P-Verify****Public Verifiability**

- Computes  $(K_1) = h(\varphi(s(\text{Pr}_{BS}+z)))$
- Computes  $r = h(K_1 || r_{si} || EL_{S_i})$
- Computes  $z = r.D$
- If satisfied the signcrypted text is legitimate, otherwise not

The proposed scheme is public verifiable where third party can easily verify the signcrypted message without knowing the sender or receiver private keys whenever any dispute occurs.

**Judge Verification**

In public verifiable signcryption schemes a third party or judge can verify authenticity of sender without breaching the confidentiality and without knowing the receiver private key, the judge just needs the signcrypted text and some additional parameters

Third party wants BS to provide  $(c, \text{Pu}_{BS}, s, z)$  and subsequent steps to adjust the BS claim.

**Cluster Head Selection Phase**

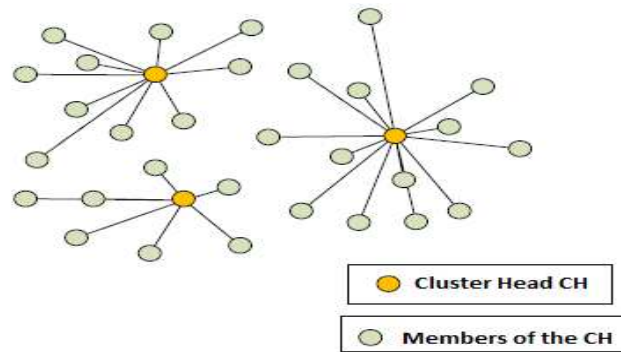
To enhance the life time of BSNs along with decreasing the transmission cost base station select cluster head for data forwarding to base station and then medical server using algorithm(4) and Cluster Head Selection process shown in figure.2

**Base station****ALGORITHM 4: Cluster Head Selection**

- Computing the highest energy level sensor node from all deployed sensor nodes on patient body  
(  $EL_{S_1}, EL_{S_2} \dots EL_{S_t}$  )
- Select cluster head  $CH_{S_i}$  having maximum energy
- Remaining sensor nodes become cluster members of that cluster
- Where  $ID_{CH_{S_i}}$  is address of Cluster head  $CH_{S_i}$
- $ID_{S_i}$  is address of cluster member  $CM_{S_i}$
- Symmetric encryption using AES algorithm
- $c = E_{r_{si}}(k_{pi} || CH_{S_i} || ID_{csi})$
- Transmit encrypted text  $c$  to bio sensor  $S_i$

**Bio Sensor****ALGORITHM 5: Decryption encoded message (c)**

- All deployed biosensor nodes  $S_i$  get the encoded message  $(c)$
- Then decrypts  $(c)$  using AES algorithms and key  $r_{si}$  as:
  - $k_{pi} || CH_{S_i} || ID_{csi} = D_{r_{si}}(c)$
  - All cluster member  $CM_{S_i}$  transmit join request messages to  $CH_{S_i}$



**Figure 2.** Cluster Head and Members of CH

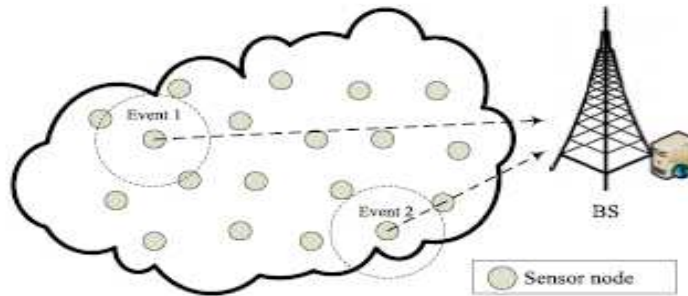


Figure 3. Direct communication protocol in WSN

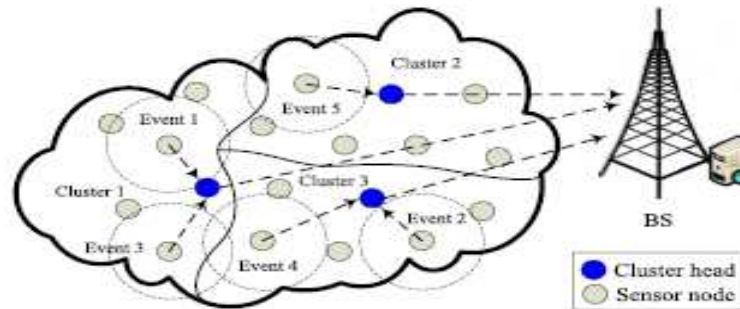


Figure 4. Cluster base routing protocol in WSN

### 3.3. Secure Data Transmission Phase

Secure transmission of patient biological data using wireless channel from source node to target node is very essential in BSN to protect patient information from different attacks.

#### Biosensor

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ALGORITHM 6: Secure Data Transmission

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- For each biosensor node  $S_i \in P_i$
- a. Sense patient data  $M_{ri}$
  - b. Computes  $D_i = \text{HASH}(M_{ri})$
  - c. Computes  $c_{ri} = E_{r_{si}}(M_{ri}, D_i)$
  - d. Transmit  $c_{ri}$  to BS

End for

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#### Base station

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ALGORITHM 7: Decryption ( $c_{ri}$ )

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- for each body sensor encrypted data  $c_{ri} \in P_i$
- a.  $(M_{ri}, D_i) = D_{r_{si}}(c_{ri})$
  - b. Computes  $D_i' = \text{HASH}(M_{ri})$
  - c. Accept if  $D_i' = D_i$  Save data to patient  $P_i$  record otherwise  $\perp$

End for

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### 3.4. Cluster Head Rotation Phase

To increase the life time of BSNs cluster head is rotated, when the CH energy level reached to a threshold value. The node have maximum energy is Reselect CH using algorithm(8).

#### Biosensor

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ALGORITHM 8: Cluster Head Rotation Phase

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- a. All body sensor nodes transmit energy level in encrypted form to BS
- b.  $c = E_{r_{si}}(EL_{S_i})$
- c. Forwarded cipher text  $c$  to BS

#### Base Station

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ALGORITHM 9: Decryption ( $c$ )

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- a. Computes  $EL_{S_i} = D_{r_{s_i}}(c)$
  - b. Select one node as a cluster head  $CH_{S_i}$  having highest energy (  $EL_{S_1}, EL_{S_2} \dots EL_{S_t}$  )
    - c. The remaining sensor nodes become member of that cluster
    - d. Where  $ID_{CH_{S_i}}$  is address of Cluster head  $CH_{S_i}$
    - e.  $ID_{S_i}$  is address of cluster member  $CM_{S_i}$
    - f. Symmetric encryption using AES algorithm
    - g.  $c = E_{r_{s_i}}(CH_{S_i} || ID_{cs_i})$
    - h. Transmit encrypted text  $c$  to bio sensor  $S_i$
- 

### Bio Sensor

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**ALGORITHM 10:** Decrypt ( $c$ )

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- a.  $(CH_{S_i} || ID_{cs_i}) = D_{r_{s_i}}(c)$
- b. Then cluster member  $CM_{S_i}$  forwarding join request messages to  $CH_{S_i}$

End

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### 3.5. Key Updating Phase

Key updating is required after each session to protect patient information from modification/illegal usage. forward secrecy and backward secrecy is ensure using key updating algorithm(11).

### Bio Sensor

Each sensor nodes  $S_i$  on patient  $P_i$  generates a random number  $r_{s_i}'$  where  $i \in \{1,2,3, \dots n - 1\}$

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**ALGORITHM 11:** Signcryption( $d, r_{s_i}', Pu_{BS}, Pr_{s_i}, Pu_{s_i}$ )

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- i. Select an integer  $d \in \{1, 2, \dots n - 1\}$
  - j. Computes  $K_1 = d.D$
  - k. Computes  $K_2 = D. Pu_{BS}$
  - l. Computes  $r = h(K_1 || r_{s_i}')$
  - m. Computes  $c = E_{k_2}(r_{s_i}')$
  - n. Computes  $s = \left( \frac{d}{(r + Pr_{s_i})} \right) \bmod n$
  - o. Computes  $z = r.D$
  - p. Forwarded signcrypted text  $(c, z, s)$  to BS
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### Base Station

BS unencrypt the signcrypted text  $(c, z, s)$  received from each biosensor  $S_i$  using algorithm(12)

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**ALGORITHM 12:** Unsigncryption ( $Pu_{BS}, Pu_{s_i}, Pr_{BS}, c, z, s$ )

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- a. Computes  $(K_1, K_2)$
  - b.  $K_1 = s(Pr_{BS} + z)$
  - c.  $K_2 = s(Pu_{s_i}(Pr_{BS} + z))$
  - d. Computes  $(r_{s_i}') = D_{K_2}(c)$
  - e. Check  $r.D = z$  if satisfied accept the random number  $r_{s_i}$  otherwise  $\perp$
  - f. BS computes round session key  $k_{p_i}'$  for patient  $p_i$
  - g. Selecting two  $r_{s_i}'$  from those bio sensor  $S_i$  installed on same patient  $p_i$  as:
  - h.  $k_{p_i}' = r_{s_i}' \oplus r_{s_i'+1}$
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**4. Objective of Proposed Scheme.** To fill the research gaps identified in the relevant literature we establish efficient key agreement and cluster head selection and rotation technique along with public verifiability with low routing overhead, less energy and computation cost to increase network life time.

Our proposed efficient key agreement and cluster head selection and rotation routing protocol based on HECC make BSNs communication more efficient which consume less energy for data transmission and optimally bandwidth utilization of the BSN.

We reduce space problem in our proposed scheme using HECC for key agreement as compare to other schemes and achieved efficiency with significant reduction in computational and communication cost.

5. **Security Analysis.** Our proposed scheme satisfied following BANs security requirements for secure session data transmission and key agreement [12].
  - 5.1. **Confidentiality.** The security of patient vital sign is very essential in resource constraint environment of BSNs. In our proposed scheme symmetric cipher AES is used to ensure confidentiality of patient information and HECC is used for confidential distribution of secret key during each session.
  - 5.2. **Integrity.** In our scheme Integrity is used to check either the data is original or modified. In our proposed scheme HEC signcryption routine and one way Hash function is used to ensure data integrity.
  - 5.3. **Authentication.** In BSNs patients data are transmitted using wireless channel which are easily vulnerable to the attacker. Authentication process is needed to prove the validity of data/node. In session key establishment phase authenticity is ensure using HEC signcryption Three are two types of authentication which are discussed below:
    - 5.4. **Node authentication.** In node authentication check the identity of the sensor node either it is valid or not. If sensor node is legitimate so it will join the networks otherwise blacklisted and isolated from the networks.
    - 5.5. **Data authentication.** In data authentication receiver verify that the data was sent really by the claimed user are not. If it is valid so it will be store on medical data base and use for further analysis otherwise discard. Authentication is used to avoid impersonation attacks.
  - 5.6. **Data Freshness.** Data freshness is the important property of cryptography to ensure that received patient information are not replayed and created newly. Data freshness play important role in BSNs where session key technique used for secure session data transmission.
  - 5.7. **Node Capture.** In our scheme when attacker hack/get session key, BS has the capability to sense it and create new session key .in ou proposed key updating phase forward secrecy ensure node capturing properties.
  - 5.8. **Scalability.** In proposed scheme has the aptitude to control significant increase/decrease in size of network after biosensor nodes deployment in our proposed initialization phase[13].
  - 5.9. **Backward and Forward Secrecy.** Our scheme ensure backward and forward secrecy [14][15] using key updating phase.

**Table 2.** Security Properties in Communication Protocols

Protocol	Bluetooth	Zigbee	TG6
Confidentiality	Yes	Yes	Yes
Integrity	No	No	Yes
Non Repudiation	No	No	No
Authentication	Yes	Yes	Yes
Authorization	No	No	No

6. **Cost Analysis.** In our proposed cost analysis section we discuss memory requirement for keys storage, processing cost of CPU and communication delay in detail.
- 6.1. **Space Analysis for storing Keys.** NIST recommended secure key size for different cryptosystem is shown in the given table. In our proposed scheme we used HECC with shorter key size  $2^{80}$  and AES with 128 bits for security purposes. Figure (5) indicates memory requirement analysis of our proposed scheme with other schemes.

**Table 3.** NIST Recommended Key Size

Symmetric Cryptosystem	RSA and Diffie-Hellman	Elliptic Curve	Hyper Elliptic Curve
80	1024	160	80
112	2048	224	112
128	3072	256	128
192	7680	384	192
256	15360	512	256



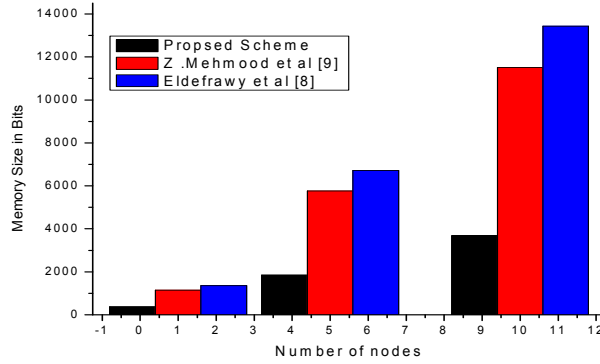


Figure 5. Space requirement for key storage

6.2. **Processing Cost Analysis.** In our proposed scheme used HECC instead other expensive public key infrastructure (RSA, Diffie-Hellman) which sufficiently decreased the processing cost shown in figure(6).

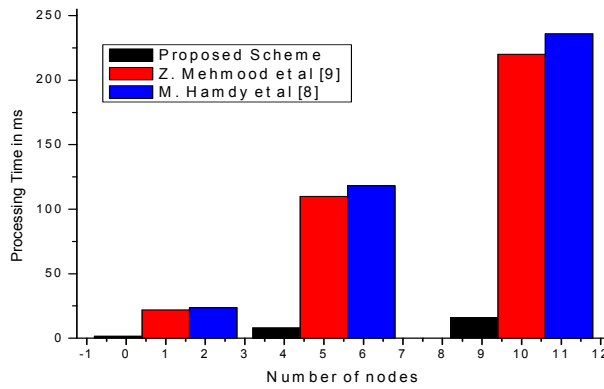


Figure 6. Processing Cost for Computation

6.3. **Communication Delay Analysis.** In proposed scheme bandwidth is efficiently utilized because we used light weighted cryptosystem (HECC). Figure (7) indicate communication delay analysis of proposed scheme and existing schemes.

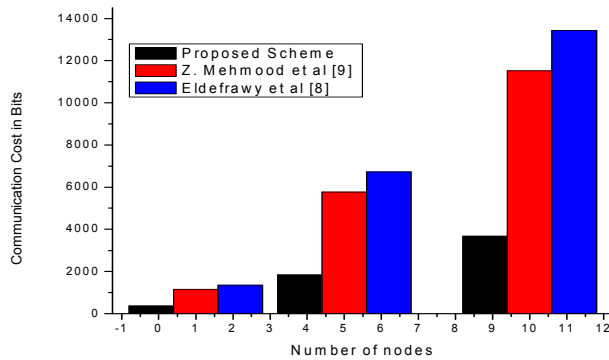


Figure 7. Communication Delay Analysis



**7. Conclusion.** The proposed scheme is public verifiable where third party can easily verify the signcrypted message without knowing the sender or receiver private keys whenever any dispute occurs. The energy level of the sensors are leveled by rotating the cluster head. The efficiency and security of this scheme proves it feasible for the resource constraint environment of body sensor networks.

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