**3GPP TSG-SA3 Meeting #123 draft\_S3-252942-r3**

**Goteborg, Sweden, 25 – 29 August 2025**

**Source: Xiaomi**

**Title: Addressing ENs in AIoT authentication procedure**

**Document for: Approval**

**Agenda item: 4.1.1**

**Spec: 3GPP TS 33.369**

**Version: 0.2.0**

**Work Item: AmbientIoT-SEC**

**Comments**

It is proposed to address the following ENs in the AIoT authentication procedure.

Editor’s Note: Whether ADM or AIOTF generates RANDAIOT\_n is FFS.

To reduce the interaction between the AIOTF and ADM, it is proposed that AIOTF generate RANDAIOT\_n for authentication. Otherwise, one additional round of messages is necessary for transmitting the RANDAIOT\_n, i.e. one message from the AIOTF to ADM for requesting the generation of RANDAIOT\_n, and one message from the ADM to AIOTF for providing the RANDAIOT\_n.

Editor’s Note: Whether replay attack is possible is FFS.

Editor’s Note: Whether RANDAIOT\_d is required for inventory procedure is FFS.

Since the Inventory request is not protected, the replay attack can always be launched. However, the device authentication is determined by verifying the RES, which is generated at least by using RANDAIOT\_n included in the Inventory request. If the verification of RES fails, the replay attack can be detected by the network side. Therefore, the attacker cannot manipulate the AIoT system by launching a replay attack during the inventory procedure.

During the authentication procedure, each peer entity should provide a random number to ensure freshness. Therefore, it is proposed to include RANDAIOT\_d in the inventory response and use it as one of the input parameters for generating the RES. With RANDAIOT\_d and RANDAIOT\_n, the security of authentication can be further enhanced.

Editor’s Note: How RESAIOT is derived and whether it is derived from KAIoT or intermediate key is FFS.

Editor’s note: The impact of interaction between AIOTF and ADM is FFS. If the authentication is expected to be run more often than normal UE, (e.g., during each inventory procedure), the analysis of load of ADM is FFS.

Considering the storage limitation of AIoT device, it is proposed that the KAIOTF is refreshed during each inventory + command procedure. In this case, the AIoT device do not need to store the security context, which can meet the requirement from RAN. The KAIOTF can be generated by the ADM from KAIOT and provided to the AIOTF to protect the command message. Regarding the load of ADM, it can be left to the implementation of the private network.

Considering the security functionality of AIOTF and ADM, and the primary authentication procedure in SNPN (clause I.2.2.2.2 of TS 33.501), it is proposed that ADM calculate XRES by using the KAIoT and determine the authentication result by verifying RES. Therefore, the security functionality of AIOT system will be:

* The ADM is responsible for the authentication and credential management.
* The AIOTF is responsible for the communication protection.

Editor’s note: How to perform the mutual authentication for command procedure will be specified.

To save the calculation resources and transmission resources of AIoT device, the implicit authentication method can be used for mutual authentication. By verifying the security of command request message, the AIoT device can implicitly determine the authentication result to the network.

\* \* \* First Change \* \* \* \*

### 5.2.2 Authentication procedure

The authentication procedure is aligned with inventory procedure and command procedure in 6.2.2 and 6.2.3 of TS 23.369[2].



Figure 5.2.1-1: Authentication procedure

0. Step 1-6 of clause 6.2.2 Procedure for Inventory or clause 6.2.3 Procedure for command in TS 23.369 [2] is performed.

1. ADM shall generate RANDAIOT\_n. AIOTF shall retrieve RANDAIOT\_n from ADM.

2. AIOTF shall include RANDAIOT\_n in the inventory request message to NG-RAN, in addition to other device identification information.

Editor’s Note: The inclusion of RANDAIOT\_n in Paging Request and the size of RANDAIOT\_n needs RAN confirmation.

3. NG-RAN shall include RANDAIOT\_n in the paging request message to the AIoT device in addition to other device identification information.

Editor’s Note: Whether replay attack is possible is FFS.

4. Upon receiving the paging request message, if the device determines it needs to respond based on the device identification information, AIoT device shall generate RANDAIOT\_d. AIoT device shall calculate RESAIOT using KAIoT, RANDAIOT\_d, and RANDAIOT\_n for network authenticating AIoT Device.

5. AIoT device sends D2R message to the NG-RAN, including RESAIOT and RANDAIOT\_d from device.

Editor’s note: Device identification information is FFS.

6. NG-RAN sends Inventory report message to AIOTF, including the RESAIOT and RANDAIOT\_d.

7. AIOTF sends device identifier and RANDAIOT\_d to ADM.

Editor’s note: The impact of interaction between AIOTF and ADM is FFS. If the authentication is expected to be run more often than normal UE, (e.g., during each inventory procedure), the analysis of load of ADM is FFS.

8. ADM derives XRESAIOT using the same method as in AIoT device.

Editor’s Note: Where the authentication credential is processed in AIOT device is FFS.

9. ADM sends XRESAIOT to AIOTF.

10. AIOTF verifies RESAIOT. If the verification is successful, the steps 12-14 in clause 6.2.2 for inventory procedure or the step 8-11of clause 6.2.3 for command procedure in TS 23.369 [2] continues.

Editor’s note: How and where to derive keys is FFS.

Editor’s note: How to perform the mutual authentication for command procedure will be specified.

\* \* \* Second Change \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* End of Changes \* \* \* \*