

Task –Role Based Access Control for Internet-Based E-Health Care Monitoring System



Deepika.N, M. Anand, K.Sudhaman

Abstract: *Internet of Things (IoT) contains enormous quantities of smart devices and smart objects that are linked to the internet for making communication with each other. The tools with IoT are utilized as a part of many fields which make the user's everyday life more agreeable. The staff from healthcare is needy on any access to significant information that capable of providing their patients with the best feasible healthcare. Designing a system for controlling the access to the patient healthcare information is tricky, due to the dynamic nature of the association and the tasks performed by them. This article describes and explains the connecting mechanism of the embedded sensors network to the server using Lightweight Internet Protocol (LwIP) and also about the unique needs of access control in the systems of healthcare information. Task-Role-based access control (T-RBAC) mechanism is used in this proposed system to prevent from unauthorized accessing and controlling of patient's medical information.*

Keywords: *Internet of Things, RBAC, T-RBAC, LwIP, Embedded sensor network.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Healthcare monitoring is information demanding; a considerable quantity of information is created for the process of treatment and accessing that information is vital for the patient's continuous care [4]. Moreover a decade, Electronic Health Records has to turn out to be progressively more widespread and common. Though, it is not the only information system employed in healthcare monitoring. In every hospital, there are several separate systems for healthcare information like the EHR, particular X-ray or other lab systems. In addition to these kind systems, huge data still only exists on paper. Even though healthcare facilities are technologically highly developed in areas like advanced types of equipment for surgery and monitoring of the patient, but in various other aspects information systems in the healthcare are still in their early life [8]. The information systems in most of the healthcare are only local to a hospital or an office of the doctor's.

The current focus is mainly on giving a resolution to these issues, depending on the fact that accessibility of correct, current and complete details is essential to build the best healthcare system [9]. Nowadays using the internet has become one of the essential things in our everyday life. It has altered the lives of many folks. The Internet provides its support for many essential purposes like social networks, business, E-commerce, entertainment, industries, shopping etc. Imagining a world where only some items can sense, communicate and share information over an Internet Protocol (IP). The systems that are interconnected acquire the data at expected intervals, and it is used to begin necessary action, giving an intelligent network for evaluating, scheduling and making a decision [10].

In this paper, IoT based E-Healthcare information monitoring using LwIP along with the Task-Role-Based Access Control (T-RBAC). This paper supports the tasks with or without workflow and approves the subject for accessing the essential objects only at the time of task execution. To facilitate the synchronization of the workflow with the flow of authorization, this paper adopts the Model of Workflow Authorization. For instance, assume if a patient with severe pain in heart got admitted to the emergency ward and that patient is allocated to the intern for duty. The workflow is initiated at the time when the patient is admitted. In the beginning, the allocated intern checks the history of patient's medical records and carries out the required physical exam. The intern may take some lab tests or may ask another specialist's opinion on the conditions of the patient. The workflow will end with writing a verdict on the record of patient's.

II. RELATED WORKS

In the health management system [3] outlined an incorporated patient monitoring device with minimal effort and along these lines of innovation is predominantly used to continuously monitor the patient health condition, for adequately and precisely measuring the patient physiological parameter, such as, temperature, heart rate and body position of the patient.

The CPU scheduling policies of computer System are discussed in [5]. Various scheduling policies are employed for solving many problems to discover the appropriate policies among them. Thus, the shortest job first (SJF) scheduling is recommended for the problems to decrease the average time for waiting or average turnaround time with CPU scheduling based on their performance.

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First come first serve (FCFS) scheduling is recommended for the problems of CPU scheduling to decrease the average utilization of CPU or average throughput. A new CPU scheduling discussed in [6]. This scheduling was depending on the three factors of CPU. They are burst time, service time of Input/output, and tasks priority. An algorithm called FFGA optimization of multiple objectives is used in this proposed system. The desired processes will be selected and run through adaptation in this system. In this method, the precedence of tasks rises along with time. This method is evaluated with the different scheduling, and it confirmed that the average time for waiting and the response are reduced.

The different algorithms to evaluate the average time for waiting and average turnaround time [1]. The results describe that the FCFS suggested for solving the scheduling problems of CPU by reducing either the average throughput or everyday use of CPU. In the Round Robin algorithm, the quantum time range is the main problem. And also in RR scheduling, the average waiting time is often quite long. System is proposed [2] with a symmetric key based authentication of the user that is implemented using wireless sensor networks. They influence the basic technique of pairwise pre-allocation of the key to helping authenticated querying. System is proposed [7] with a protocol that uses numerous vital developments which are based on the scheme of crucial random pre-sharing, to improve the capabilities of self-recovery for the captured node. On the other hand, it is not scalable; it needs a significant memory for the keys storage and its elaborate scheme of pre-sharing. So, various scholars have projected public key cryptography (PKC) based authentication and access control for overcoming those challenges.

The microcontroller kernel powered by ARM for the multitasking and scheduling implementation [11]. The regular part of the result that deals with the controller of the miniaturized scale to assure that the affected primary work is handled efficiently as possible under the situation. The modules that are having the unique interface of the microcontroller for ADC, LCD, and UART are used. Gathered information from these interfaces can be tried by utilizing the framework of $\mu\text{C}/\text{OS-II}$. Likewise, it gives steps associated with porting the RTOS and point by point review for building up an embedded monitoring system.

III. SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Figure 1 demonstrates the system architecture of the proposed system where the data securing and send information to the internet by utilizing LwIP. Furthermore, the data from the server can be accessed by using the T-RBAC. This E-Healthcare information system contains an embedded sensor network such as tri-axial accelerometer sensor, Body temperature sensor, ECG sensor. Body temperature and ECG sensors are analog to a digital signal. The body position sensor is connected to the inter-integrated circuit. The acquired analog signal is converted to digital by the analog to digital transformation module in the STM32F429 controller chip. In this microcontroller send the information to the internet through a router.

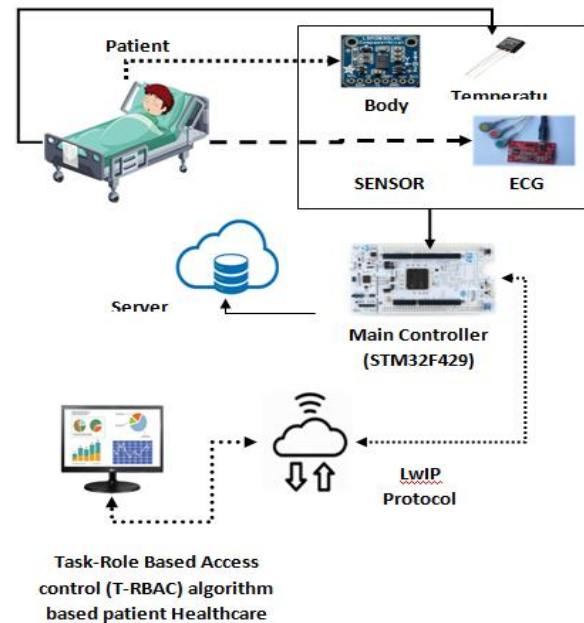


Fig. 1 System Architecture of the proposed system

Software Architecture of Network in Stm32

The HTTP server in STM32 controller works based on the structure model of Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) or Internet Protocol(IP) in the application layer. Its primary function is to connect to the client of cloud HTTP and provide a control message from remote devices. Figure 2 illustrates the server and client communication. Html is a synchronized method for identification of substance records to attain shading, style of content, and results of a hyperlink for the World Wide Web (WWW) pages.

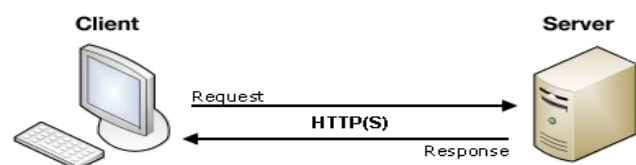


Fig. 2 Server and Client Communication

The page is form educing several demonstrations has where the heart rate and temperature of patient's readings can be visualized in real-time.

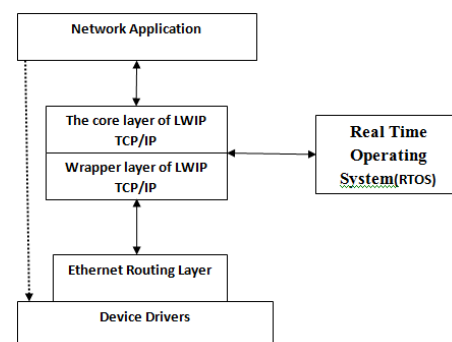


Fig. 3 Architecture of LWIP

The program of Embedded HTTP client is based on the Lightweight Internet Protocol (LwIP). Figure 3 illustrates the architecture of LwIP. This paper employs an ARM Cortex-M4 based microcontroller that contains the inbuilt Ethernet unit which hosts LwIP as a web server that sends the information to the application from the client side. Any gadgets with an Internet, for instance, Smartphone or PC/Laptop can be employed to monitor the healthcare information. The customer side authorized user only allowed in accessing information about the patients. HTML language is used in developing the website pages. This system uses the LwIP open source TCP/IP convention stack for its web network.

LwIP mainly comprises of the two layers they are core layer and the wrapper layer. These layers are explained below.

Core Layer: The core layer of lightweight IP (lwIP) holds protocols of TCP/IP connection. It is available as a library containing options for default protocol.

Wrapper Layer: The main function of the wrapper layer of lightweight IP (lwIP) is to provide the connection between the core layer of the lwIP and device drivers of the Ethernet. It also offers the functionality for stack starting and its initialization. In the process of initialization, the wrapper sends the data to the Ethernet driver. The handler for call back in the stack is one of the functions associated with the wrapper layer. Similarly, the frames that are supplied by the stack are transmitted through the Ethernet driver.

IV. MODELLING T-RBAC SYSTEM [12]

The primary aim of the proposed system is constant monitoring of the patients over the internet based on the T-RBAC. Figure 4 illustrates the structure of a regular Role Based Access Control (RBAC). Temperature sensor, ECG sensor and body position sensor are interfaced with the microcontroller. All information acquired by these embeds sensors monitored through the web by utilizing the internet.

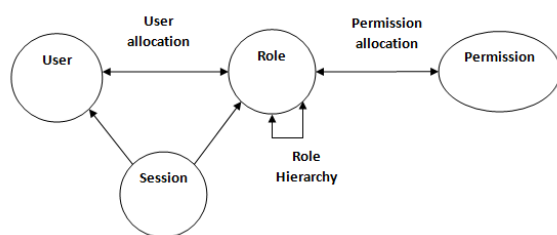


Fig. 4 Structure of RBAC and its relationship

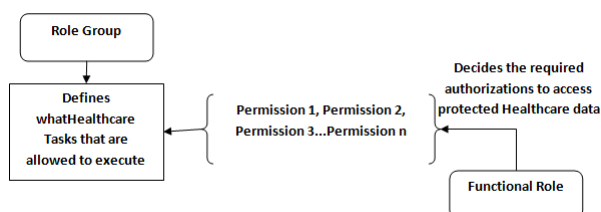


Fig. 5 Process of Role group and functional role in T-RBAC

The process of role group and functional role is illustrated in the figure 5. Here, a role group describes which tasks in the healthcare sectors that are allowed to execute by users.

Whereas functional roles decides the required authorizations to access protected healthcare data resources. In this cloud system for healthcare monitoring, roles are to provide support to passive access control and the active access control is supported by the tasks. An occupant contains the number of clients, and it is located in the cloud system. Every client is allocated with a role, roles are assigned to the tasks with or without workflow, and tasks are allocated based on the authorization.

The clients with their role defined can run several tasks during the tasks with workflow or the tasks without workflow that are allocated to their position. The roles are authorized depending on their tasks, and these assigned permissions can vary dynamically based on the task in progress. Authorization decides the clients, that what tasks can be done under what role and its condition.

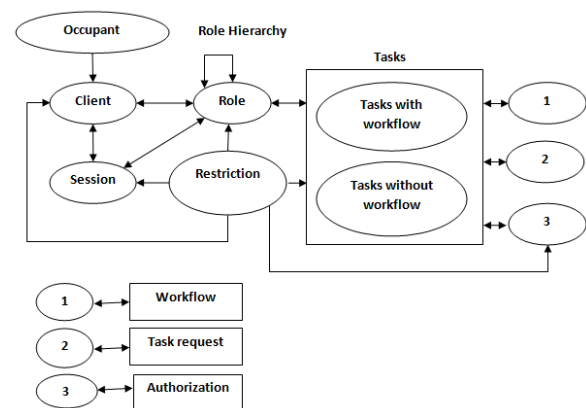


Fig. 6 Task-RBAC with Restriction

The parameters of T-RBAC model are as follows:

C indicates the clients/user, $C = \{c1, c2, \dots, cn\}$

R indicates the roles, $R = \{R1, R2, \dots, Rn\}$

T shows the tasks, $T = \{t1, t2, \dots, tn\}$

A indicates authorizations / permissions, $A = \{a1, a2, \dots, an\}$ and

r indicates the restrictions, $r = \{r1, r2, \dots, rn\}$

For example the following set {Stephen, doctor, monitor information of patient, read, day and location of hospital} describes that, Stephen as a doctor monitors information of patient from the hospital during day hours. Figure 6 shows the restriction model Task-Role Based Access Control (T-RBAC). The mechanism for the access control of individual allocation may have the following possible pair.

Allocation of Client/User: Cloud based monitoring system can be designed for many users with various roles.

Allocation of Roles to User: User can be assigned with one or more roles and similarly, a role can be assigned to many users. It is a subset of, $C \times R$.

$$RUA \subseteq C \times R$$

Allocation of Task to Roles: A role can be assigned with multiple tasks, and a task can be allocated to various roles. It is a subset of, $T \times R$.

$$TRA \subseteq T \times R$$

Allocation of Permissions to Task: Each task needs to be allocated with permissions and it is a subset of $T \times P$.

$$PTA \subseteq T \times P$$

Allocation of Workflow to Task: The task which is having workflow, are needs to be assigned with workflows.

Restrictions: In the following ways restrictions can be implemented in T-RBAC system.

Least privilege method: In this method permission is given at the time of task initialization and it is cancelled after task completion. For example, if a doctor initiates a request to see a patient record, then permission will be assigned for some time and later it will be cancelled.

Separation of Duty: SOD can be applicable in T-RBAC system for the tasks belong to workflow instance. SOD is not applicable to supervision and approval oriented task classes.

Assignment: After completion of an assigned task its permission will gets expired. For example, if a doctor is unable to attend a patient, this task can be assigned to a new doctor by administrative user. Permission will be denied after the assignment is completed by the new user.

Location-based restriction: Time and location of clients can be taken into account for allowing access to a task.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Hardware model of IoT based e-health monitoring system is illustrated in figure 7. Task-Role based access control (T-RBAC) algorithm is written into the web server code. The parameters of T-RBAC such as clients, tasks, roles, restriction, resources, permissions, and approval policies are saved in memory of web server built using STM32F429 microcontroller. Adding or removing clients, creating tasks, permissions and restrictions etc, are done by the system admin.

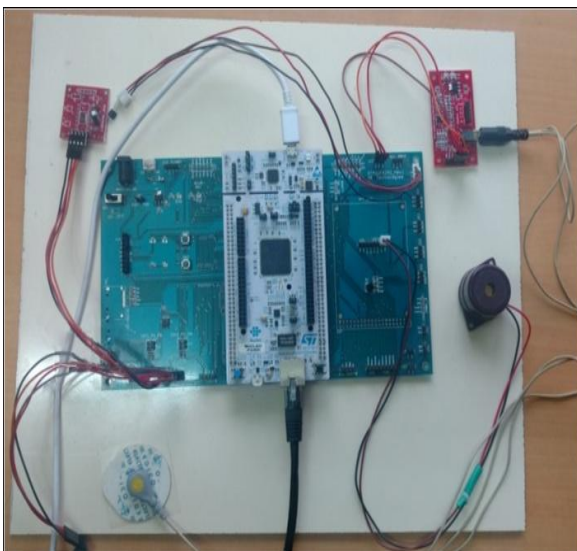


Fig. 7 Hardware model for Internet-based e-Health monitoring system

Though various access control models are available, T-RBAC provides better benefit than other access control models. It is a combined model of role based access control (RBAC) and activity based access control (ABAC). It allows role and task based access control, passive and active access control and it supports role hierarchy and SOD. Figure 8 shows the comparison between RBAC and T-RBAC model. RBAC system allows creation of one

role/permission at a time, whereas in T-RBAC system we can assign more than one tasks and permissions.

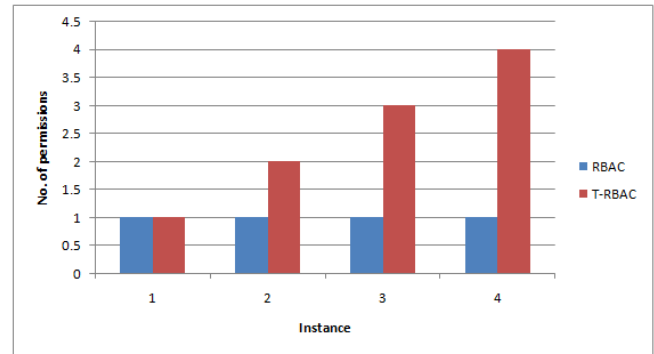


Fig. 8 Comparisons of RBAC & T-RBAC

In our proposed model, the system admin role to an occupant is provided by the service provider and the rights will be allocated to access them so that they can handle the verification and authorization process. Rules are created, and the restrictions are enforced on clients and tasks, so that misuse of approval is banned. When a client login into the system, it authenticates the client identification and decide their roles. Figure 9 illustrate the Process of Task-Role based Access Control (T-RBAC).

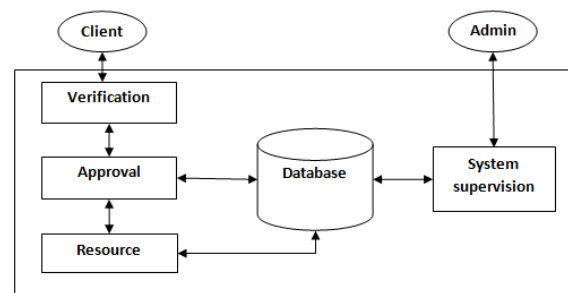


Fig. 9 Process of Task-Role based Access Control (T-RBAC)

Internet Connected E-Health Medical Gateway Platform

Username:

Password:

Fig. 10 Login page of patient's health monitoring system

Figure 10 shows the login page of patient's health monitoring system. Depends on the user logged in, the system analyzes the role and task then it displays further pages. Doctors and caretakers are assigned with separate user id and password. Figure 11 and Figure 12 shows task and role based patient's health monitoring page for doctor and caretaker. As per the role, task and permissions created in T-RBAC system, the doctor can view the patient's medical records and prescribe medicines to the patients.

The caretaker can only view the medical records and they cannot able to any contents on the page.

ECG waveform is plotted using HTML 5 Canvas element. The HTML5 Canvas API provides the developers with the ability to produce and control the designs particularly in the program dynamically. It will happen without depending on server-side libraries, Flash, or other modules. The API of Canvas offers good control over the individual pixels on your page. It looks like a clean slate on which we employ JavaScript to draw and vitalize objects. Line chart/graph brings a progression of straight lines associating every one of the information focuses. It's usually used to display a trend - works well for either a large or small number of data points.

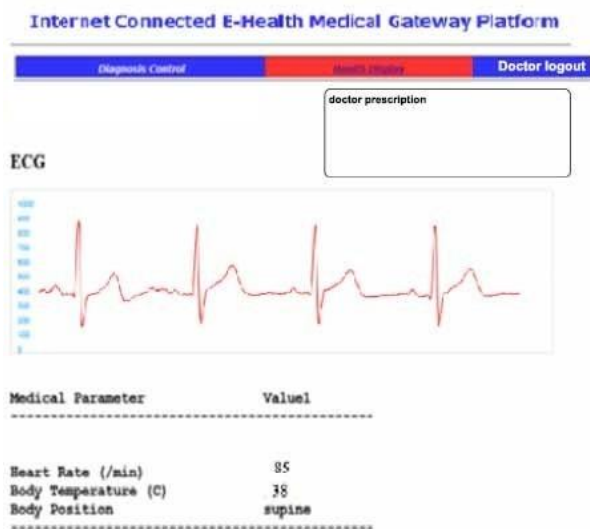


Fig. 11 Task and role based patient's health monitoring page for Doctors

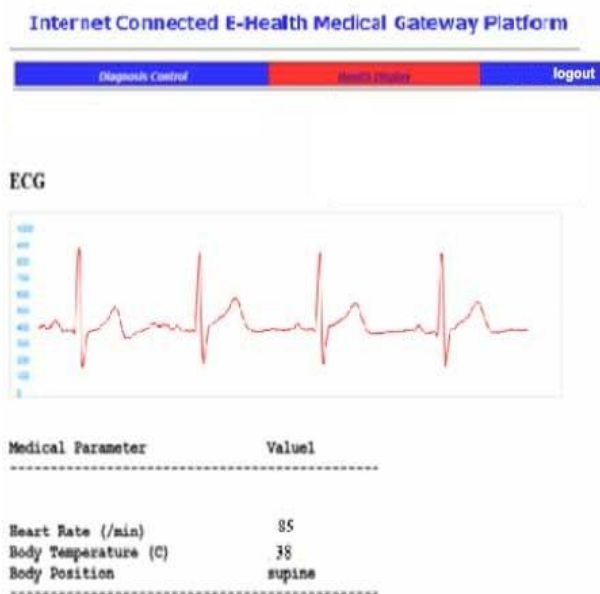


Fig. 12 Task and role based patient's health monitoring page for Caretaker

VI. CONCLUSION

This proposed work is engaged to use the innovation internet to build up a system which continually monitors the

patient healthcare information by utilizing an STM32F429 microcontroller. In this work, the various medical sensors are employed to read the report of the patient's body temperature, the position of the body and their heart rate. Microcontroller acquires the sensor information and sends it to the web by using LwIP.

E-Healthcare systems have numerous occupants with various clients. Accessing the resources that are the sensitive case should only provide to the authorized clients and occupants. In this paper, the necessities of access control method were analyzed for the healthcare sectors, and an enhanced way of access control was proposed by extending Role Based Access Control (RBAC) to incorporate task and client restriction to maintain the application cloud of multi-occupant. This method offers rights for accessing the tasks that are adapted dynamically with the change in tasks. This system also employs fine-grained restriction like task restriction and user restriction with addition to range level for each occupant. The doctors can see the information based on their role by logging to the web server page by using IP. Thus a consistent patient monitoring system is designed.

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