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Leveraging user-related Internet of Things for continuous authentication: a survey

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Among all Internet of Things (IoT) devices, a subset of them are related to users. Leveraging these user-related IoT elements, it is possible to ensure the identity of the user for a period of time, thus avoiding impersonation. This need is known as Continuous Authentication (CA). Since 2009, a plethora of IoT-based CA academic research and industrial contributions have been proposed. We offer a comprehensive overview of 58 research papers regarding the main components of such a CA system. The status of the industry is studied as well, covering 32 market contributions, research projects and related standards. Lessons learned, challenges and open issues to foster further research in this area are finally presented.

CCS Concepts: • **Security and privacy** → **Authentication**; • **General and reference** → *Cross-computing tools and techniques*; • **Information systems** → *Data mining*; • **Applied computing** → *Consumer products*;

Additional Key Words and Phrases: Continuous Authentication (CA), Internet Of Things (IoT), user-related IoT, IoT-based CA, CA algorithms, CA evaluation metrics, CA industry

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1 INTRODUCTION

In the age of interconnectivity, we are surrounded by technology which tries to make our lives easier. Fridges which inform the user about food to buy, smart bracelets to control our heart rate, smartphones to be permanently up-to-date anywhere, etc. Moreover, an increasing amount of constrained devices are including connectivity to enable remote management, such as video cameras or industrial sensors. This trend is known as Internet of things (IoT), a paradigm focused on the global interconnection of smart objects by means of extended network technologies [121]. A “thing” in IoT is everyday object, that is readable, recognizable, locatable, addressable, and controllable via the Internet [89]. A huge diversity of devices, like Radio Frequency IDentification (RFID) tags or even smartphones, are considered IoT devices [30]. Therefore, they have been applied in many different fields such as industrial systems or environmental analysis. Among all variants, this survey focuses on user-related IoT devices. This term refers to IoT devices that can either be ported by users (e.g., smartwatches) or that can collect and/or process data from them (e.g., security cameras).

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53 However, for simplicity reasons, we will use the term IoT devices hereinafter , though we will keep the term *user-related*
54 when needed for clarity.

55 In this novel environment, security and privacy issues cannot be neglected, being 2010 the time when these topics
56 became a matter of concern [113]. IoT devices like smartphones or smartwatches can connect or exchange data between
57 them and a security flaw in one of them can be a key step to access another. On the other hand, as some IoT devices
58 are typically carried by their owner, the mere presence of the device can be regarded as an evidence of presence of
59 the owner. However, if these devices are robbed, the attacker could inherit the benefits of their possession. In some
60 cases, device robbery trends are non-negligible. For example, according to Consumer Reports, more than 3 million
61 handsets were stolen in 2013¹. Besides, IoT devices may store a significant amount of sensitive data, which should only
62 be accessed by authorized users [109]. These issues are specific to IoT devices and call for tailored mechanisms. In
63 particular, it would be desirable that the IoT device could reliably determine the identity of the legitimate user, thus
64 authenticating him/her. Such a user may be the porting one (e.g., in the case of smartwatches) or a subject under control
65 (e.g., in the case of surveillance cameras). Ideally, this could be carried out constantly, ensuring that the user is not
66 impersonated at any time. This would be needed, for example, to prevent malicious usage if the IoT device is robbed.
67 This leads to a specific type of authentication called Continuous Authentication (CA).

72 CA has been explored for many years. One of the first contributions was developed in 1995 [165], proposing the
73 analysis of typing characteristics of a user in an IBM PC keyboard. Years later, in 2000, [102] presented the use of the
74 camera in a desktop computer to do a continuous analysis of users' faces. In 2006, [59] applied neural networks to
75 also recognize users' typing patterns in a desktop machine. Despite these efforts, it was not until 2009 when the first
76 proposal regarding IoT-based CA appeared [82]. It was focused on the analysis of users' heart rate. From then on, 58
77 scientific proposals have been developed. Moreover, to the best of authors' knowledge, there are 32 market initiatives
78 with some publicly available information. The fast evolution pace and the diversity of IoT devices call for having a
79 common ground for future developments.

81 There are multiple surveys focused on IoT security and privacy [80, 118, 197]. Others concentrate on IoT while
82 briefly mentioning some security issues [110],[23, 81]. Regarding CA, some works focus on mobile devices exclusively
83 [136, 155], while others present general aspects about CA without going into details [163, 172] and other proposal
84 exclusively analyzes multibiometric features [21]. As a result, none of them performs a comprehensive and holistic
85 study of CA by means of IoT.

88 To overcome these limitations, this paper presents a survey of IoT-based CA approaches, that is, CA techniques
89 that involve user-related IoT devices, either from the academic or the industrial perspective. The scope of the survey
90 will consist of CA proposals to continuously authenticate the user against an IoT device itself or against another third
91 party². To this extent, all steps involved in the CA process are studied for each academic proposal. Additionally, a
92 holistic study is provided by the analysis of industry status, paying attention to CA research projects, standards and
93 market products. Thus, this work aims to provide an overview of decisions taken to design an IoT-based CA system
94 based on the experience provided by existing academic and industrial approaches. As a result, this analysis leads us to
95 conclude weaknesses and open issues to address in further research.

98 The structure of the paper is the following: Section 2 introduces the concept of authentication and its relationship with
99 IoT devices. The characterization of CA is introduced in Section 3. The CA process is described in Section 4 considering

101 ¹<https://www.businessinsider.com/smartphone-theft-statistics-2014-5?IR=T>, last access February 2019.

102 ²Even if the term 'IoT' contains Internet, there might be CA approaches that are fully carried out in the device itself without any need for communication.
103 For the sake of generality, this survey covers these approaches as well.

105 all existing academic works of CA in IoT. Then, Section 5 presents industry status of IoT-based CA developments.
106 Lessons learned from the previous analysis are summarized in Section 6. Challenges and open issues are presented in
107 Section 7. Section 8 analyzes related works and compares them with this proposal. Finally, Section 9 concludes the
108 paper.
109

111 2 FROM AUTHENTICATION TO AUTHENTICATION IN IOT DEVICES 112

113 As a prerequisite to understand Continuous Authentication (CA) in Internet of Things (IoT), it is important to clarify
114 the foundations of traditional authentication and how it has been implemented into IoT devices. Therefore, this Section
115 first introduces the concept of authentication (Section 2.1), and afterwards covers its enforcement in IoT devices (Section
116 2.2).
117

118 2.1 Authentication 119

120 Authentication is achieved through the use of identity credentials, also called identifiers, verifying that the user has
121 been authorized to use the presented identifier [86]. In other words, thanks to authentication it is possible to ensure
122 that a given entity is the one it claims to be.
123

124 Traditionally, an identifier can be something you know (e.g., a password), something you have (e.g., a card) or
125 something you are (e.g., fingerprint traces). In order for an element to be considered as identifier, the following main
126 features have to be fulfilled [48]:
127

- 128 • **Universality:** every subject should have at least one identifier.
- 129 • **Uniqueness and precision:** each person should have a unique and completely different identifier.
- 130 • **Permanence:** the identifier has to remain over time.
- 131 • **Storability:** it must be possible to store the identifier.
- 132 • **Simplicity:** the identifier should be easy to collect.

133 Historically, one of the preferred methods for authentication in IT environments leverages on passwords. A user
134 chooses a password the first time he logs in a service and, from that moment on, every time he accesses to such service,
135 the password is verified [129]. This technique suffers many drawbacks that should be managed, for instance stolen or
136 forgotten passwords. Multifactor authentication alleviates the problem. It consists of requesting different elements, e.g.
137 something one knows and has like a password together with a credit card. In this way, an illegitimate user has less
138 opportunities to succeed.
139

140 With the aim to balance security and usability, biometric approaches are gaining momentum. On the one hand, they
141 are regarded as more secure since biometric traits like the iris or the face are theoretically more difficult to reproduce.
142 However, this type of authentication may produce false positives and negatives [58] and thus, the system should be
143 properly tested prior to its usage. Among all biometric approaches, behavioral biometrics aim to find traces in the way
144 the user behaves which are different from the remaining subjects [28, 144, 172]. In this regard, several approaches have
145 been proposed, such as the analysis of screen touches to unlock a mobile phone [57]. According to a global survey of
146 IBM security in 2018, 44 % of respondents perceive biometrics as the most secure authentication method, and 65% feel
147 comfortable with this type of authentication [160]. The same report states that this method is expected to increase
148 adoption due to the growing consumer base of smartphones.
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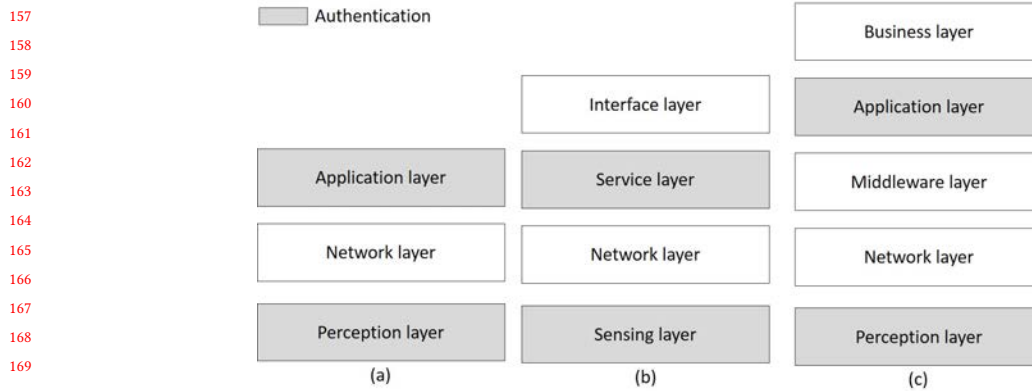


Fig. 1. IoT architectures. (a) 3-layer [190], (b) 4-layer [52], (c) 5-layer [98]

2.2 Authentication in IoT devices

Despite the great variety of IoT devices, the industry has adopted some reference architectures to guide their development [23]. In particular, three well-known ones are the 3-layer [190], 4-layer [52] and the 5-layer architectures [98] (Figure 1). The 3-layer architecture is appropriate at the initial stage of the development of IoT systems. The 4-layer architecture is service-oriented and specially useful for achieving interoperability between heterogeneous devices. By contrast, the 5-layer architecture is the first general architecture for IoT devices. In the following, we describe these architectures and highlight where authentication issues are considered.

In the 3-layer architecture, the perception layer is the lowest one. It represents physical IoT devices, e.g. sensors, that collect and process information. The network layer is the second one, whose main task is transmitting and processing data from the perception layer to the application one. This upper layer offers services to users to meet their needs.

The 4-layer architecture is analogous to the previous one in the network layer, while the perception and application layers are renamed as sensing and service layers respectively. The main difference is that the interface layer appears. It provides interaction between methods to users and other applications, which given the large number of IoT devices from different vendors and systems, is an alternative to avoid interaction problems.

In the 5-layer architecture, the middleware and the business layers appear. The perception and the network layers provide the same services as in the 3-layer architecture. The middleware allows working with heterogeneous IoT devices and connecting those that implement the same service. Subsequently, the application layer offers global management, providing users with services they demand. Finally, the business layer manages the whole IoT system, building models, graphs, etc. based on data received from the previous layer. It supports decision-making processes based on the analysis of huge amounts of data.

The existence of the aforementioned architectures does not mean that every IoT device is a relevant element for authentication. For example, industrial IoT sensors, smoke or air pollution sensors, or sensors used in farms for governing the production, they are not intended to authenticate any user. Nevertheless, a big amount of user-related IoT devices (e.g. wearables, implantable medical devices, etc.) may have a direct role in this regard. In these devices, the perception/sensing and the application/service ones are those specially involved in the authentication process. In the perception/ sensing layer some IoT devices collect data to be managed in the application/service layer which takes the final decision. The application one decides whether the user at stake is an authorized one or an impostor. For instance,

209 the front camera of a smartphone (perception layer) may give information to an application (application layer) to decide
210 if the user is the right one to open it. In case of the service layer, it decides whether enabling the interaction between
211 services.
212

213 3 CHARACTERIZING CONTINUOUS AUTHENTICATION

214
215 The concept of traditional authentication presented in Section 2.1 refers to a one-shot process – the user is either
216 authenticated or not after a decision taken at a given moment.
217

218 With the advent of sensing technologies (recall the perception layer of IoT devices, Section 2.2), a novel term called
219 Continuous Authentication has appeared. In order to determine which mechanisms can be considered suitable for CA,
220 it is necessary to provide a clear definition of the term. Although a plethora of definitions exist (e.g. [19, 167]), in the
221 following we consider three of them. Thus, Stylios et al. [172] define CA as ‘*a new generation of security mechanisms that*
222 *continuously monitor user behavior and use this as basis to re-authenticate them periodically throughout a login session*’.
223 This definition highlights that CA performs the authentication decision repeatedly, considering user behavior. However,
224 the frequency and the extent of the behavior concept are unclear. In this regard, Frank et al. [69] go a step beyond,
225 stating that ‘*CA approaches monitor the user’s interaction with the device, and ideally, at every point in time (or at least*
226 *with a high frequency) the system estimates if the legitimate user is using the device.*’. Thus, from their point of view, the
227 decision should be as frequent as possible and the behavior comes from the way the user interacts with the device. Last
228 but not least, Ahmed and Traore [19] state that *CA consists of the process of positively verifying the identity of a user in a*
229 *repeated manner throughout a computing session.*
230

231 While these definitions give valuable insights on CA, we claim they are not comprehensive enough. On the one
232 hand, Stylios et al’s definition lacks of precision in the frequency. On the other hand, Frank et al’s definition leave aside
233 those approaches whose data comes from other sources different from the user interaction. With the advent of wearable
234 computing, we claim that this is no longer valid – data about the user can be seamlessly retrieved without the need of
235 an explicit interaction with the device. Concerning Ahmed and Traore’s one, it refers to a computing session. Thus,
236 giving access to a restricted area based on a given trait (e.g. gait) would fall outside of this definition. Moreover, none of
237 the definitions consider the consequences of the denial of authentication. To overcome these limitations, we adopt the
238 following definition:
239

240
241 **Definition. Continuous Authentication (CA)** refers to a security mechanism that monitors user actions at every
242 point in time (or at least with a high frequency) during a session and determines if that user is the legitimate one. If it is
243 not the case, suitable defensive mechanisms should be put in place.
244

245 The above definition (1) keeps the precision on how frequent the assessment should be done; (2) refines the term
246 behavior by a more concrete term (actions) which do not necessarily need to be carried out in the device or within a
247 computing session; and (3) considers the system reaction in the event of an user impersonation.
248

249 On the other hand, once CA is defined, its benefits have to be considered. The improvements of CA over a traditional
250 authentication system can be analysed in terms of security, safety and comfort. Concerning security, CA aims to reduce
251 the chances of impersonation. A non-CA system identifies the user at the very beginning of the process. Thus, if
252 he/she is impersonated afterwards, the attacker inherits the legitimate user’s rights. On the contrary, CA brings a better
253 protection. For example, if an attacker steals a smartphone after illegally getting the password, CA could allow the
254 device to suddenly block itself after observing that the usage pattern differs from that of the legitimate user[56].
255

256 In terms of safety, the continuous monitoring of users may prevent dangerous situations which cannot be avoided
257 otherwise. For instance, a train driver is continuously authenticated, using an IoT device (e.g. smartwatch), to avoid
258

261 impersonation or detecting some anomaly in the driver's health status that prevents driving adequately. If at some
262 point in time an illegitimate user tries to drive the train or the driver's health status is not the right one, an alarm can
263 be somehow triggered protecting the life of passengers.
264

265 Finally, authentication cannot provide the same comfort as CA. The main reason is that the study of users along time
266 allows the identification of features that can be seamlessly retrieved. For instance, when entering home using a key,
267 password or card (i.e., traditional authentication), the user can turn on or off the air conditioning.
268

269 4 CONTINUOUS AUTHENTICATION LEVERAGING IOT DEVICES 270

271 CA offers interesting features over authentication (recall Section 2.1) but it requires monitoring users over a period
272 of time. Given the nature of IoT devices and their closeness to users, applying them for CA purposes is specially
273 attractive. The increasing sensorial capabilities of some IoT devices simplifies collecting data from users that can serve
274 as identifiers. In any case, it must be noted that our definition of IoT device does not imply that it will be referred to a
275 single user. A security camera, for instance, could authenticate a set of authorized users. In this regard, this survey
276 studies approaches that enforce CA using data collected from user-related IoT devices and in which the authentication
277 process is carried out in the IoT device itself or in other entity or device.
278
279

280 In order to leverage IoT for CA purposes, a total of five steps depicted in Figure 2 have to be considered. Firstly the
281 scenario where the authentication is going to be performed is selected. For example, authenticating someone while
282 he/she is running. Of course, some approaches can apply to several scenarios or even be suitable for a generic one in
283 which some conditions are met.
284

285 The selection of the user-related IoT device (e.g., smartphones, holters, etc.) in charge of collecting authentication
286 data is the second step. Again, this step may define a particular device, a set of them or even a generic description of
287 suitable IoT devices. In the latter case, a particular choice has to be defined for the experimental assessment of the
288 approach.
289

290 The third step corresponds to the selection of features used in the authentication enforcement. This issue may
291 depend on the considered IoT device and its sensorial capabilities. For example, smartphones are interesting to capture
292 touchscreen events, while other devices like medical ones are specially useful to acquire human body signals.
293

294 Once features are collected, the authentication is enforced. It requires the use of a particular data analysis technique,
295 as well as an algorithm like a classifier, to distinguish between authorized users and impostors. As the authentication is
296 continuous, the enforcement should be constantly performed. Ideally, this should take place in real time, that is, while
297 the data is collected. Depending on the IoT device, this might not be even feasible or require external elements (e.g.,
298 powerful servers) to be carried out. Moreover, it may have a non-negligible impact on the device resources. Hence, a
299 proper evaluation of this aspect is crucial to ensure the practical suitability of the proposal to state-of-the-art devices.
300

301 The final step is to analyse the effectiveness of the proposal. To this extent, a typical approach is the use of a
302 dataset, either ad-hoc or a publicly available one. Over this dataset, the proposed mechanism is applied and a given
303 evaluation metric (such as the accuracy, the false positive/negative rate, etc.) is computed. As a difference to traditional
304 authentication, CA may consider metrics to determine the suitability over time. For example, in a CA system it may
305 be relevant to measure how much time the system takes to discover an attacker. On the other hand, CA systems may
306 include a recovery mechanism for cases in which the legitimate user is wrongly regarded as an attacker. Thus, the
307 recovery period is another issue at stake.
308
309

310 The following sections focus on each of the aforementioned phases. We describe the different alternatives that can
311 be taken for each step, together with the description of 58 surveyed papers.
312



Fig. 2. Design process of an IoT-based CA approach

4.1 Scenario selection

Many scenarios can take advantage of the assorted nature of IoT devices. Several works highlight their use in smart cities, healthcare or transportation, to name a few [81, 121]. Nevertheless, authentication and CA in particular, reduces the application scope. In the following we introduce scenarios in which leveraging user-related IoT devices for CA is interesting, also discussing the benefits of CA in terms of security, safety and comfort introduced in Section 3:

- *Smart building* is a place equipped with IoT devices which may contribute to the quality of life of people, either reducing the power consumption, improving users' comfort or taking care of users' security [121, 149]. This category involves all buildings equipped with an ecosystem of IoT devices to collect data along time, such as smart homes or smart factories. The amount of devices and computing resources may be balanced regarding the investment and the utility. Nonetheless, despite the variety of existing applications, the use of CA can be considered in the following scenarios:

- Open the savings box as long as the user behaves as expected. A user is monitored since entering his home/office. If he enters either running or, on the contrary, moving slowly and silently until identifying the save box, it is not going to be opened if this behavior differs from the normal one.
- Room comfort. Monitoring users in a room may allow the improvement of their comfort. If users are continuously authenticated, the room can be set up according to their preferences, for instance automatically setting their preferred temperature considering his/her habits. This would only be applicable when the set of potential users is previously known (e.g. working environment).

Based on these scenarios, CA in smart buildings may help to improve comfort, enhancing users' experiences; and security, protecting users' belongings. Authentication could also be applied but CA goes a step forward strengthening these services.

- *Transportation* involves services related to the use and management of vehicles. The verification of being the right driver, not an impostor, while driving or being driving in the right conditions (e.g. appropriate heart rate) is a priority. This could be achieved, for instance, monitoring the brain, the sitting posture of the driver [126, 148] or even using face recognition. Another field of application is the continuous recognition, thus CA, of the driver's voice to only execute commands said by him [66]. In this last paper CA is considered during a session, in such a way that the access to the service, voice assistant, is verified every time the user speaks and not just at the beginning as traditional authentication systems suggest. The use of CA is directly linked to security and, even more important, to safety. Security because it ensures that the legitimate driver is the right one.
- *Healthcare* is one of the essential services in society and lots of advances go towards its enhancement. The link between technology and healthcare has let to introduce the concepts of e-health, m-health and s-health [170]. The first refers to the use of information and communication technologies within the health sector. Similarly, m-health corresponds to the use of mobile devices for healthcare purposes. Finally, the nexus between smart cities and mobile devices motivates the concept of s-health. All these concepts aim to improve the patients'

quality of life, e.g. [191] proposes a m-Health system for health monitoring protecting patients' privacy. In this vein, CA stands as a nice alternative to detect unexpected behavioral patterns (such as an abnormal heart rate) as soon as possible. The CA of doctors in terms of data privacy is also a priority. For instance, CA can be applied to ensure that access to patients' records is granted only to the right user (doctor in this case), who is identified along the whole process to avoid impersonations and thus, data leaks. In this way, CA contributes to achieving security. At the same time, it also contributes to safety – authenticating a patient continuously may help to detect, for example, that a holter has been compromised, and thus patient's life put at risk.

- *Retail services*, available for the whole population, are enhanced by an advanced communication and/or processing infrastructure. The range of settings and scenarios can be quite large. An example is the use of gait to authenticate users continuously when accessing a smart kiosk [139]. In this scenario the user movements are monitored along the way to the kiosk, being in this time when the CA process is enforced. Also trying to improve the customers experience, another example is continuously authenticating (regular) customers once entering a shop. Customers can be monitored to offer constant personalized attention, for instance advertising products such user may like. Additionally, another use case is the monitoring of the user behavior before using his smartphone for paying a product. If some malicious and/ or anomalous activity is executing in the smartphone along a certain period of time, it may raise an alarm or even block the payment.

Many different uses of CA in retail services can be devised but apart from security, as it has been presented in previous examples, comfort is interesting herein. Retailers are eager to sell their products and the easier for clients, the more profitable for them. According to the kiosk example, it is more comfortable accessing to the kiosk and getting a magazine than requesting an identifier beforehand. In the same way, personalized attention is linked to comfort.

- *Military services* allow the provision of geographic situational awareness, communications and information sharing capabilities during tactical operations. [40] describes the first step towards the use of CA in this scenario. It presents the details of a prototyping activity in which two commercial biometric devices were integrated with a handheld communication device to perform CA. Then, comments to apply such implementation for a military-focused settings are described. Other possible example is the use of drones for controlling users above suspicion. Such users are continuously authenticated for a period of time and if some illegitimate activity is done by them, actions can be taken accordingly.

In this scenario the use of CA to reach safety and security is presented in the previous example. Data should remain under the control of the legitimate users in a military action and the right procedures and systems should be provided to protect the lives of militaries and civilians.

According to this description, there are multiple scenarios where CA is promising. However, most of current proposals, 54 in total, present a general approach without being linked to any concrete scenario. These works are intended to be suitable for many of the mentioned scenarios. However, a proper suitability assessment should be carried out before their application in each particular setting. For instance, Preuveneers et al. use location to get dynamic context fingerprinting for continuous authentication [143]. However, in some circumstances, and also considering the element used for collecting data (e.g. GPS, Wi-Fi, etc), gathering location data could not be feasible. Issues like this encourage the evaluation of each proposal in a particular scenario.

4.2 Device selection

Nowadays, a plethora of devices may fall under the IoT category, for instance home electronic devices (e.g. smart fridges) [120]. However, as mentioned in Section 1, this survey focuses on user-related IoT devices. These devices are classified based on the level of closeness to the user:

- Portable devices: they are carried out by the user. Smartphones and tablets are well-known portable devices [46]. These devices are not always regarded as an integral part of IoT. Indeed, some authors consider them as devices that interact with IoT devices [100]. However, their evolution is making them similar to the expected capabilities of the traditional concept of IoT. Therefore, several authors consider them as part of IoT [30, 62, 131]. In this survey, we opt for this choice. This kind of devices are characterized by being easy to use, providing a wide set of services and being economically accessible to the majority of the population. Their adoption is expected to keep increasing [160]. Among other reasons, this is motivated because of their improved features such as high definition cameras [99].
- Wearables: they integrate key technologies (e.g. actuating, communication, low power computing, etc) into intelligent systems to bring new functionalities into clothes, patches, watches, glasses, and other body-mounted devices³ [186].
- Implantable devices: due to their specific application, they are distinguished from regular wearables, although some works do not make such a distinction [61]. These devices are specially useful for healthcare monitoring, as it happens with pacemakers or heart monitoring implants [120].
- External devices: they are devices which collect and/or process users' data but are not ported by, worn by or implanted in users. Security cameras are other example, they may collect users' movements to be processed afterwards. Other external device could be a drone, which may collect users' data on the fly.

Some of the described devices count on limited resources, specially computation, storage and battery. This specially happens on wearables and implantable devices, which usually count on the order of few MHz of CPU, few 10s of KB of RAM, and few 100s of KB of ROM [43, 162]. This makes the design of new mechanisms and applications challenging.

In the studied proposals, most of them (40 cases) use portable devices, mobile phones (smartphones) in particular (e.g. [56, 142]), maybe due to their wide range of possible uses. Another subset of works apply wearable devices like smart glasses [47, 138], smart bracelets [40], shoes [194] or wearable sensors [82, 83, 117, 123, 195]. [15, 56, 124, 126, 144] apply a generic wearable and portable device. By contrast, one proposal applies an implantable device, a holster [105], while [171] an external one, which refers to a non-contact radar used to collect users' heart rate. On the other hand, [37, 114] do not mention any IoT device and [42] point out the use of an unspecified IoT device. Concerning the amount of IoT devices at stake, although the use of multiple IoT devices is an option, most proposals use a single IoT device. Additional IoT devices are commonly used when resource-constrained devices are at stake to improve processing capabilities. For example, in [42] a wearable uses a smartphone to process data due to its limited resources (more details in Section 4.4.3).

4.3 Feature selection

Authentication enforcement requires processing data collected from users. Such data can be described by a set of features. For instance, a biometric trait such as a fingerprint could be used for this purpose. In this paper we distinguish the following types of features:

³Given that users always carry out their smartphones, several works consider them to be wearable devices [123, 124, 195]. However, for the sake of clarity, in this survey they will be considered portable ones.

- 469 • *Raw features* are data directly obtained from a particular device, e.g. sensor, mobile device, etc. This information
470 is directly used in the authentication process. It may come from different sources, as follows:
 - 471 – Sensors: elements that take input data from the environment. They are specially applied in mobile devices and
472 wearables. Three different types are identified [27, 136]:
 - 473 * Motion sensors: they measure acceleration and rotation forces. They involve accelerometers, gravity sensors,
474 gyroscopes, and rotational vector sensors.
 - 475 * Position sensors: they measure the physical placement of the device. They involve orientation sensors and
476 magnetometers.
 - 477 * Environmental sensors: they measure environmental elements such as the temperature or the light. They
478 involve barometers, photometers or thermometers, to name a few.
 - 479 – Mobile device platform information [136]: they involve all data that can be obtained from mobile devices
480 different from the sensors described above. They involve WiFi/Bluetooth/Cell information, application usage,
481 actions, camera, touchscreen events, microphone, calls, short messages (SMSs), device model, language, screen
482 size, power consumption or caller/receiver data.
 - 483 – Body-related data: they refer to any kind of physiological and anatomical data. The use of physiological data,
484 namely biosignals [93], is a common choice. This can be motivated by their significant variety (e.g., electric,
485 magnetic or optic biosignals). They can be used for different purposes such as measuring the heart rate, the
486 body temperature, etc. From all possible biosignals, ElectroCardioGram (ECG) data has already been shown
487 to be successful in authentication processes [29, 105]. They are induced by electrical heart muscle excitation
488 and thus used to measure heart rate. For the same purpose, the PhotoPlethysmoGram (PPG) signal is also
489 commonly applied for authentication purposes [31, 37]. PPG bases on sensing the rate of blood flow as a
490 consequence of the heart's pumping action. Apart from biosignals, there are anatomical data like the plantar
491 pressure which is analyzed through heat maps [194].
- 492 • *Derived features* are data produced after some kind of processing of raw features. Within this type the following
493 features are distinguished:
 - 494 – Gait: corresponds to the way humans move. For instance, it can be achieved using some motion sensors [139].
 - 495 – Position in a seat: refers to the way in which a person is sitting in a particular place.
 - 496 – Biometric trait: refers to biometric characteristics (e.g. face or eye) used for constructing a biometric profile.
497 Cameras are the most commonly used accessory to extract these traits.
 - 498 – Touch dynamics: are the characteristics of the inputs received from a touchscreen when a user is interacting
499 with a device. This term is usually related to keystrokes dynamics but we consider that this latter term is
500 directly linked to 'touch' as a raw feature while touch dynamics goes a step forward, that is it has more input
501 types such as multi-touch and touch movements [91]. For instance, it may involve the use of touch together
502 with motion and/ or position sensors.
 - 503 – Location: is the physical location of a device. It could be directly obtained from enviromental sensors but also
504 together with other mobile device platform information such as GPS or even by Bluetooth.
 - 505 – Text properties: are extracted from data input by users in devices (such as SMSs or instant messaging apps).
506 Stylometry, linguistics (word profiling, lexical, syntactic and structural) or semantic properties are well-known
507 examples.
 - 508 – Contextual features: these features depend on the environment at stake. For example, for vehicular scenarios,
509 the driving speed, the actual lane or the current use of in-car features (e.g., break or throttle), to name a few.
510

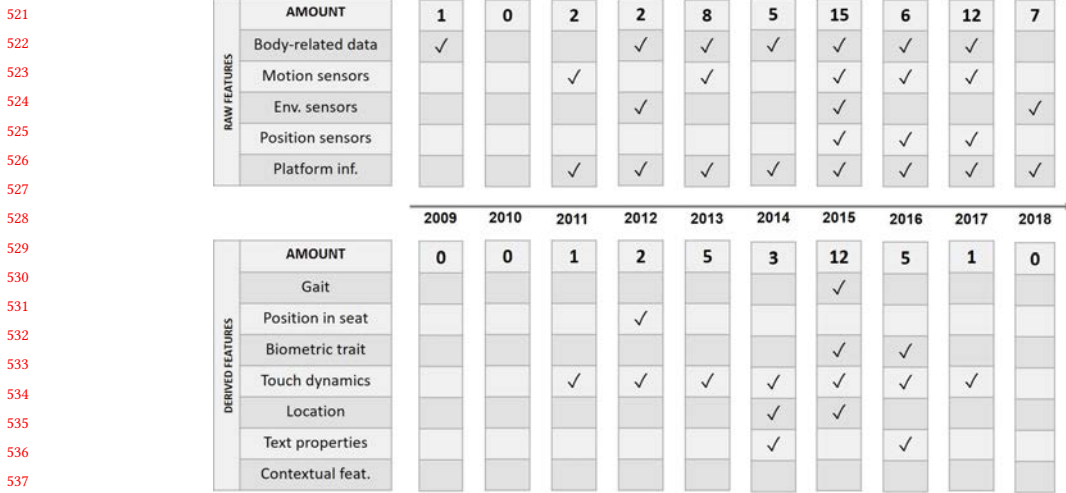


Fig. 3. Chronological evolution of the use of raw and derived features

Table 1. Use of raw and derived features in the considered papers

		#	References
RAW	Body-related	15	[82][148][105][37][83][117][123][42][171][114][126][40][84][122][111]
	Motion sensors	19	[166][187][51][125][189][139][168][138][195][144][124][66][104][106][111][112][45][60][15]
	Environmental sensors	3	[148][125][56]
	Position sensors	8	[122][51][125][44][138][112][45][60]
	Mobile device platform info	30	[108][166][67][148][69][50][68][198][187][94][192][75][153][143][154][125][189][164][178][151][41][127][47][44][116][138][66][28][104][56]
DERIVED	Gait	1	[139]
	Position in the seat	1	[148]
	Biometric trait	3	[51][154][116]
	Touch dynamics	22	[166][67][69][50][68][198][187][192][75][153][84][122][125][189][164][178][151][41][47][44][168][138]
	Location	2	[142][153]
	Text properties	2	[153][71]
	Contextual features	1	[148]

Works can also be classified based on the amount of features (either raw and/ or derived) but as most proposals (28 in total) use multiple features, we stick to the raw/derived classification for analysis purposes. As depicted in Table 1, mobile devices platform data are the most common used raw features. Particularly, 10 proposals from *mobile device platform information* focus on *touch* exclusively. Consequently, *touch dynamics* is the most common derived feature, including all works with raw feature *touch* as well as [168], [122] and [84] in which *touch* is managed by *motion* and *positions sensors* respectively in the first works and by biosignals, impedances in particular, in the latter. *Body-related data* and *motion sensors* are used in 16 and 19 works respectively, which is also a representative number, where all works related to *body-related* data except for [194], apply biosignals. Note that identifiers should be created through these features and depending on their randomness and their likelihood to be unique and permanent, their management can become more or less challenging. For instance, in an scenario in which users live in the same area, *body-related* is supposed to be more discriminating than location.

The chronological evolution of the use of features helps to understand the beginnings of CA and where we are going. Figure 3 presents the use of raw and derived features chronologically. The first noticeable issue is that CA is quite a novel area of research which started 9 years ago but until 2013 no significant number of works were developed. The use of *motion sensors* and *biosignals* (more precisely, the ECG signal) were pioneer raw features being *motion* used for *touch dynamics* [82, 166]. Years later the use of *environmental* and *position sensors* became much more widespread, also putting the focus on *touch dynamics* [122, 125, 138]. *Mobile device platform information*, specially *touch*, is also used to some extent, e.g. [164], [178] or [44]. However, the use of *body-related data*, biosignals in particular, is experiencing a significant growth and in the last 3 years, in which 6 approaches have been proposed [194][123][42][171][114][40].

4.4 Authentication enforcement

To enforce the authentication process and determine if a user is legitimate or not, choosing the technique and algorithm to apply is the first step (Sections 4.4.1 and 4.4.2). The second step is to choose the computational platform to carry out the process (Section 4.4.3).

4.4.1 Technique selection. The reduced cost of storage devices facilitates the management of huge amounts of data. Moreover, the emergence of the cloud facilitates its storage at a low price or even for free. When there are too much data at stake its management and processing become a hefty task. Data mining tries to relieve this problem. These techniques aim to discover patterns in the analysed data [188].

The most common use of data mining is the processing of data in a batch setting, such that all required training data is available, at the very beginning, as a whole set [34]. This dataset is typically split in two fragments – training samples and testing ones. All approaches, except for [42, 56, 143], focus on CA in IoT applying this technique.

However, it must be recalled that IoT-based CA has two specific issues – authentication is carried out with high frequency and IoT devices are resource constrained. With these requirements in mind, data stream mining techniques are at stake specially if the IoT device aims to be autonomous. They are able to work with streams (i.e. a potentially endless flow of data) investing moderate resources [34]. To achieve this goal, they process every sample just once, keeping a subset of recent ones in memory. They are designed to work in a limited amount of time and are intended to be ready to predict at any time. [42, 56, 143] are the only user-related IoT-based CA approaches which use this technique.

4.4.2 Enforcement algorithm selection. Once features are processed, the next step (recall Figure 2) is the use of an algorithm to determine if a given user is considered legitimate or impostor. In this regard, several options exist and they can be classified as follows:

- *Classification (C)* consists of predicting the right class for a user, that is legitimate or impostor. It can be performed using a supervised or an unsupervised algorithm. In the former case users' data is labeled and the output is already known – the user is either legitimate or impostor. In some way the algorithm is taught about what to learn. By contrast, in unsupervised algorithms the process is more complex because it is unknown if the user should be classified as legitimate or not beforehand. Some of the most common classifiers are the following:
 - Neural Networks (NN) are supervised or unsupervised classifiers composed of artificial neurons interconnected with each other to form a structure that mimics the behavior and neural processing of biological neurons [95]. Input neurons receive authentication features in the input layer and then, data is processed through other neurons either in an output layer or in a hidden one. Indeed, several hidden layers may exist. The output layer

625 is the one which provides the result – authentication granted or denied. [122] and [187] manage authentication
626 using a classical NN, [15, 187] also work with NN but with multiple layers and [45] uses a variant of multilayer
627 NN which is characterized for being specially appropriate for image processing.

- 628 – K-Nearest Neighbours method (K-NN) is a supervised classification algorithm. K-NN has been extensively
629 used. Given an element, it is classified based on the 'k' nearest neighbors ('k' most similar instances) [96]. In
630 other words, predictions for a new instance are made by searching through the entire training set for the 'k'
631 most similar instances and summarizing the output variable for those 'k' instances. In this way, given a new
632 input, it is classified considering the most similar known user. For this purpose, a distance metrics (such as
633 those described in *Instance-Based Learning* below) could be applied. In terms of CA, [42, 69, 127] work with
634 different values of 'k', while [60] fixes 'k'=1, [171] fixes 'k'=4, [104] fixes 'k'=11, [56] fixes 'k' to {3, 10, 21} and
635 [50, 153, 178] do not provide any configuration information.
- 636 – Ensemble Learning (EL) combines multiple learning algorithms to perform a better prediction and they can be
637 used in a supervised or unsupervised way [196]. Among existing EL algorithms, bagging and boosting are
638 noticed. Bagging consists of training each classifier on a random redistribution of the training set. Then, it
639 allows these classifiers to vote on a final decision [39]. However, just [114] applies this technique for CA by
640 means of IoT. Otherwise, boosting produces a series of classifiers in which the training set is chosen based
641 on the performance of the earlier classifiers in the series [70]. AdaBoost was the first boosting algorithm
642 developed for binary classification [156] and it is used in [123] for IoT-based CA purposes. Gradient-Boosted
643 Trees are also a common alternative specially appropriate when managing data of mixed type and the need
644 to be robust to outliers. In this latter case they may provide predictions by combining many trees of limited
645 depth preferably. It has also been applied in IoT-based CA [124, 144].
- 646 – Decision Trees (DT) are supervised classifiers that solve classification problems using a tree structure. Users
647 are classified as legitimate or impostors by posing a series of questions about their features. Each node contains
648 a question and every internal node points to one child node for each possible answer to the question [101].
649 Several works in IoT-based CA use an unspecified DT technique [50, 60, 68, 124]. By contrast, [44, 67, 187]
650 mention the use of J48. It is a particular implementation of a DT which produces a high true positive rate [63].
651 Besides, a well-known type of DT, called Hoeffding tree, is also used in this context [143]. Hoeffding trees are
652 data stream decision trees classifiers which grow the tree based on the Hoeffding bound. This bound quantifies
653 the number of observations needed to estimate some statistics within a prescribed precision. Certain level
654 of confidence is given to the best attribute to split the tree and the model is created based on the number
655 of seen instances [34]. [56] applies Hoeffding trees for IoT-based CA. Another challenging type of DT and
656 extension over bagging, is called Random Forest (RF). It creates a set of decision trees from training data. Then,
657 it aggregates the votes from different DT to decide the final class of the test data item [134]. In IoT-based CA
658 [44, 67, 68, 104, 195] deal with RF.
- 659 – Bayesian (BY) are statistical classifiers, commonly used in a supervised manner, that predict class membership
660 based on probabilities [72]. In a nutshell, they compute the likelihood of an element belonging to a class
661 considering how probable it is for each of its individual features. A couple of CA for IoT proposals, developed
662 by Feng et al., apply this classifier [67, 68]. One well-known type of bayesian classifiers is Naive Bayes. It
663 works under the Naive Bayes theorem which assumes that the effect of an attribute value on a given class is
664 independent of other attributes values [107]. This is the case of [50, 56, 106, 194] for IoT-based CA.

- 677 – Support Vector Machines (SVMs) are supervised classifiers which locate each users' data in a n-dimensional
678 space, where n is the number of features and the value of such features linked to each coordinate. They are
679 popular due to their robust mathematical theory. They have been applied in assorted fields from medicine
680 to engineering [135]. Classification looks for finding the hyper-plane that differentiate the two classes (i.e.,
681 legitimate users and impostors). They usually perform linear classifications but non-linear ones can also be
682 considered applying a kernel trick [157], which is a mathematical function to simplify the problem. There
683 are different kernel functions, such as the linear, the polynomial, the Gaussian or Radial Basis Function
684 (RBF). Most of approaches working on IoT-based CA use the classical SVM algorithm [28, 60, 84, 106, 111,
685 114, 117, 138, 168, 189] and from those using a kernel function, the RBF is the most representative one
686 [45, 51, 69, 112, 123, 154, 192, 194] followed by the linear one [75, 116, 123, 164, 171]. By contrast, the use of
687 polynomial [66] kernel is uncommon. Additionally, just [47] proposed the use of a Gaussian RBF kernel for
688 CA by means of IoT and [139] use multiple weak SVM classifiers.
689
- 692 – Ad-Hoc (AH) classifiers are those specially developed for a particular work. [47] proposed the use of Chebyshev
693 classifier on the bases of Chebyshev's inequality [88], which states that no more than $1/n^2$ of a distribution's
694 values are more than n standard deviations away from the mean. Concerning IoT-based CA, [71] uses a decision
695 fusion classifier composed of several binary classifiers to distinguish between a couple of groups. On the other
696 hand, [106] applies regression for classification purposes.
697
- 698 • *Clustering (CL)* consists of dividing data in homogeneous groups (clusters) such that all data in a cluster is more
699 similar to each other than to others. CL can be considered a form of classification because it creates data with
700 class (cluster) labels [175]. However, for the sake of clarity, we explain them separately. CL algorithms can be
701 hierarchical or partitional. Hierarchical algorithms find successive clusters using previously established clusters,
702 whereas partitional algorithms determine all clusters at a time [133]. Some of the most relevant CL algorithms
703 are the following ones:
704
- 705 – K-means (KM) is a partitional algorithm that assigns each point to the cluster whose center (centroid) is nearer.
706 To do this, each data point n is assigned to the nearest mean, which can be calculated through the Euclidean
707 distance or any other distance metric (see below *Instance-Based Learning* algorithms). Means are adjusted
708 to match the sample means of the data points that they are responsible for [115]. Although it has not been
709 applied in any of the considered papers, this stands as an interesting choice.
710
- 712 – Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) is also a partitional algorithm which assumes that all the data points are
713 generated from a mixture of a finite number of Gaussian distributions (continuous probability distributions)
714 [147]. Therefore, each cluster is formed by those elements that result from the combination of the same
715 distributions.
716
- 717 – Density-based clustering (D) algorithm [64], which can be partitional or hierarchical, is devised to discover
718 arbitrary-shaped clusters. It focuses on finding a number of clusters regarding an estimation of the density
719 distribution of data. This is the case of [28] which applies density based clusters for CA by means of IoT.
720
- 721 • *Instance-Based Learning (IBL)* consists of determining which user of the training set is closer to the user to
722 authenticate using a distance function [188]. For this purpose, each user is represented by his features, typically
723 expressed in numerical magnitudes. Each feature is thus a point in the potential value space. Using this repre-
724 sentation, there are three well-known distance functions. The Euclidean distance is calculated as the length of
725 the line segment connecting a pair of points given by the Pythagorean theorem. The Manhattan distance is the
726 distance between two points in a grid, adding horizontal and vertical items. Finally, the Mahalanobis distance is
727

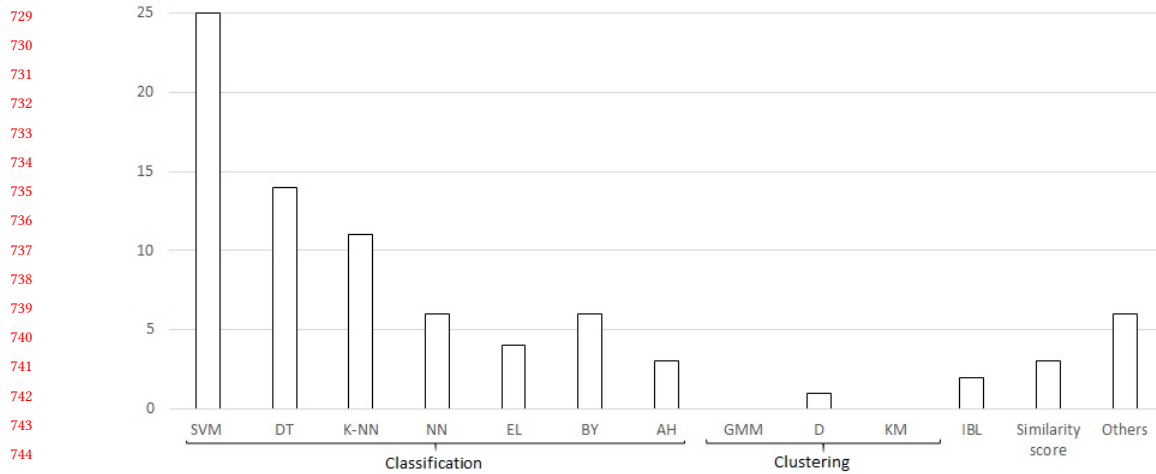


Fig. 4. Amount of papers per enforcement algorithm

used to measure the similarity between two random multidimensional variables. The calculus is similar to the Euclidean distance but considering correlation, that is covariance. A proposal uses the Euclidean distance [151] to continuously authenticate users, while just one uses Mahalanobis distance [82].

- *Similarity score* are approaches that enforce the authentication based on comparing an established value, achieved after some processing, with the test one. One common way is the use of thresholds to discriminate between legitimate users and impostors. This has been used in [126] for IoT-based CA. The sticking point is to set the appropriate threshold. Other possibilities are the development of some ad-hoc techniques, such as the used of correlation matrix [37] or specific functions [108] also applied for IoT-based CA purposes.
- *Others* multiple and assorted algorithms can be applied in the authentication enforcement process. In the considered works, there are some approaches based on ad-hoc procedures [125, 166]. On the other hand, others use novel techniques based on well-known models like the Markov Decision Process [41]. Even a regression algorithm called kernel ridge regression has been used for classification purposes [112]. Last but not least, innovative image processing algorithms have been applied after converting input data into images [198].

As shown in Figure 4, it is noticeable that SVM classifiers stand out over the rest with a total of 25 proposals. DT are also commonly used classifiers and 14 proposals take advantage of them. One of their strengths is that once the tree has been constructed the classification is straightforward. K-NN classifiers are also applied in 12 proposals, being their simplicity an essential characteristic – just a distance is computed to do the classification. It can also be seen that most proposals apply classification approaches and all of them supervised algorithms, which are a nice alternative to simplify the classification process.

In addition to the use of classifiers, 3 and 2 proposals use similarity scores and IBL respectively. These techniques are particularly appropriate when speed is demanding because their enforcement is significantly fast due to their simplicity. For this same reason, they are promising alternatives in devices with constrained resources where complex computations are not feasible.

781 *4.4.3 Platform choice.* The enforcement process can be performed in the device that collects the data (typically,
782 the user-related IoT device) or in a third party. In the former case the main advantages are that it is faster (as it avoids
783 transmission time) and it is more secure (in that no trusted third parties are needed). On the other hand, the enforcement
784 of authentication in a third party may benefit from having more computation power in terms of energy, memory or
785 storage. Besides, as the authentication should be continuous, the transmission should be permanent. This not only
786 poses security problems but also increases management complexity since multiple devices are involved.
787

788 The resource constraints in wearables and implantable devices (recall Section 4.2) are typically addressed by outsourc-
789 ing the complex computations to more powerful nodes. Thus, these devices focus on feature acquisition (e.g. [117, 171]),
790 but processing is carried out by a portable device or a cloud-based server (called third party). This is specially remarkable
791 in biosignal processing (e.g. ECG data) in which most papers do not specify where biosignals should be processed (e.g.
792 [42][105]), though it can be assumed that it will be carried out in a third party. Indeed, a total of 21 proposals do the
793 enforcement in a third party, namely a server (e.g. [44][139]), while in 10 of them (e.g. [117][114]) it is assumed but
794 not directly specified. Conversely, 38 proposals enforce authentication in the IoT device that collects applied features,
795 being portable devices (34) the most common ones (e.g. [166][104]), a couple of them do the enforcement in a wearable
796 ([47][124]) and other couple in a device within a vehicle ([66][148]).
797
798
799

801 4.5 Evaluation analysis

802 Proposals can be evaluated theoretically, as well as empirically by doing some kind of experimentation. An outstanding
803 CA contribution that aims to be applied in the real world should perform an experimental evaluation considering a
804 particular dataset (Section 4.5.1) and some evaluation metrics (Section 4.5.2). Note that the operating system in which
805 the CA process is carried out is another aspect to consider. However, as 28 proposals apply Android, other 30 do not
806 provide any specification and just [187] develops an iOS application, this issue does not require further study.
807

810 *4.5.1 Datasets.* IoT-based CA proposals, as it commonly happens in other fields, have to be empirically evaluated to
811 verify their feasibility in a real environment. The evaluation involves data developed ad-hoc for a given approach (42
812 proposals) or used from public sources (14 proposals). Each dataset usually contains data from multiple participants and
813 the number of them could be an indicator of the relevance and adequacy of the dataset. However, in a CA system in
814 which the authentication should be performed in a continuous way for unlimited time (ideally), collecting data in a
815 long period of time is also relevant for the evaluation process.
816

817 Table 2 presents the number of participants per dataset (developed or public), together with the amount of time
818 along which features have been collected per participant.
819

820 Going a little deeper, most datasets do not detail the time along which features are retrieved. This is important to
821 assess whether the proposed mechanism is suitable for long usage periods. Indeed, just 37.5% of public datasets and
822 38.1% of the developed ones specify this time. Remarkably, there are some proposals in which developed datasets are
823 created based on data of several months [71, 127], 60-90 minutes [125, 198], 2-6 hours [112, 168] or public databases
824 which present data collected in 24 months [56], 24 hours [42, 105] or 2-6 hours [45, 111]. On the contrary, the rest of
825 works use data collected along several minutes.
826

827 In terms of the number of participants to construct the dataset, in percentage (see Figure 5), the most significant
828 amount of proposals, 28.6% of developed datasets involve between 11 and 30 users and the same percentage of public
829 ones involve between 31 and 60 users. There are not public datasets with more than 301 participants. The fact that 7.1%
830

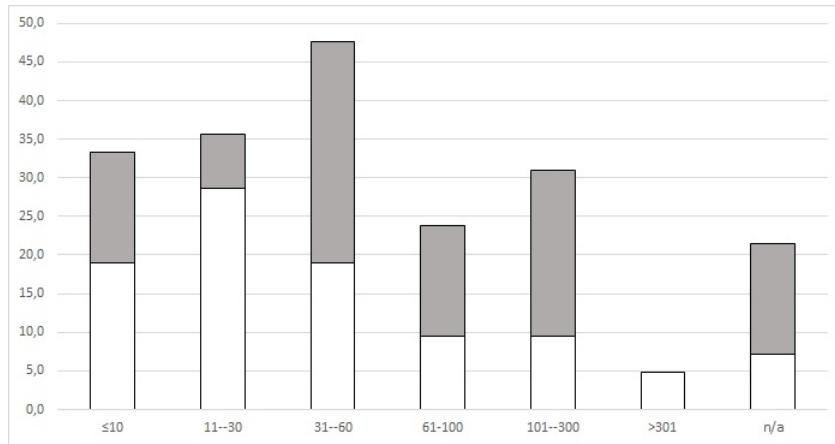


Fig. 5. Distribution (in %) of developed datasets (in white) and public ones (in gray) considering the amount of participants.

and 14.3% of proposals with developed and public datasets respectively do not specify the amount of participants, is an unexpected situation.

Regarding the nature of public datasets, 3 of them contain biomedical data [42, 105, 123], a pair of them touch activity [122, 151], a couple of them data from images [116, 154], motion sensors data [124, 144], activity from mobile devices [94, 108] and data from smartphones and their sensors [56]. This latter pair use the same dataset that is Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Reality Dataset⁴. Indeed, 3 proposals [42, 94, 108] use MIT datasets. Moreover, [45, 111] use the dataset developed in [168].

As a final comment, [194] is the only paper which evaluates the proposal without giving details about the nature of the dataset.

Table 2. Dataset analysis. '-' represents an unknown value

Num users	Public		Developed	
	Time	References	Time	References
≤10	32 min.	[124]	18 min.	[60]
	24 hours	[42]	-	[117][143][84][50][187][166][40]
11-30	-	[144]	30 min.	[195]
			15 min.	[82]
			15 min.	[51]
			30-60 min.	[198]
			5-10 days	[44][104]
31-60	24 months	[56]	-	[47][192][178][142][66][126]
			Multiple session 2 hours	[138]
			2 min.	[37]
61-100	2-6 hours	[111][45]	-	[69][164][67][139][106][15]
			2 min.	[171]
			90 min.	[125]
101-300	24 hours	[105]	2-6 hours	[168][112]
			19 months	[127]
>301	-	[94][108]	5 months	[71]
			-	[114][189]
-	-	[123][122]	-	[114][75]
-	-	-	26 days	[28]

⁴<http://realitycommons.media.mit.edu/realitymining.html> , last access January 2018

Table 3. Evaluation metric analysis

	#	References
Conf. matrix	5	[124][143][166][189][106]
TP	6	[195][42][171][84][66][28]
TN	1	[171]
FP	4	[195][42][66][28]
FN	2	[84][56]
TPR	3	[47][75][116]
FAR	29	[138][144][124][123][105][37][117][114][122][94][69][192][51][154] [125][164][68][151][198][44][187][67][116][71][126][104][194][112][45]
TAR	3	[51][154][198]
FRR	26	[47][144][138][124][123][105][37][117][122][94][69][192][125][164] [68][151][44][187][67][127][71][126][104][194][112][45]
ROC	12	[114][192][75][51][154][125][164][198][44][126][124][42]
EER	27	[47][138][144][124][123][105][171][37][117][114][168][122][94] [69][192][125][178][151][198][108][71][153][126][111][112][60][15]
Precision	7	[195][124][42][50][116][189][60]
Recall	5	[124][42][116][189][60]
Accuracy	7	[124][189][139][171][104][45][60]
F-measure	5	[42][171][189][45][60]
Usability	19	[123][50][56][171][94][68][151][198][67][66][117][83][143][69][51] [153][84][125][126]*
Energy cons.	9	[195][168][166][66][125][108][71][142][138]*
*Only mentioned. In bold, most used metrics		

4.5.2 *Evaluation metrics.* After choosing a dataset, the authentication process is carried out and lastly, the output is analysed to determine the adequacy of the system. To do this, the following evaluation metrics can be used:

- *Confusion matrix* [65] is commonly used to evaluate the classifier performance. It describes how many members of a class have been classified in each of the existing classes. Based on this matrix, four evaluation metrics can be computed:
 - False positive (FP) (respectively, False negative (FN)) is the amount of authenticated users that should be rejected (resp. legitimate) but they were predicted as legitimate (resp. impostors). This affects the security of the system and should be as minimum as possible.
 - True positive (TP) (respectively, True negative (TN)) is the amount of authenticated users that should be legitimate (resp. rejected) and they were predicted as such. The maximization of this ratio is the main goal.
- *Accuracy* [141] is the number of right predictions (i.e., TP + TN) divided by the total number of authentication decisions. This issue should be maximized.
- *False rejection rate (FRR)* (also called *False Negative Rate (FNR)* or *False Non Match Rate (FNMR)*) [65] is the percentage ratio of the number of legitimate users predicted as impostors against the total number of legitimate user (FN/(FN + TP)).
- *False acceptance rate (FAR)* (also called *False Positive Rate (FPR)* or *False Match Rate (FMR)*) [65] is the percentage ratio of the number of impostors predicted as legitimate users against the total number of impostors (FP/(FP + TN)).
- *Equal Error Rate (EER)* [92] is the point at which the FAR and FRR cross and it is particularly applied in biometric systems. Lower EER means higher system accuracy.
- *True rejection rate (TRR)* is the probability of the system to correctly reject impostors. Ideally this metric should be 100%.
- *True acceptance rate (TAR)* is the probability of the system to correctly identify legitimate users. It should be maximum.

- Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) [65] is used to evaluate classifiers output quality. It is represented as a curve, such that FP is located on X-axis and TP on Y-axis. Ideally, the curve should grow towards the top-left meaning that the model does correct predictions. The area under the curve is commonly used as a measure of quality. The area of a perfect classifier tend to be close to 1.
- *Recall* (or Sensitivity) [141] is the proportion of users that are correctly predicted as positives, either being legitimate or not ($TP/(TP+FN)$). It should be as high as possible trying to maximize TP.
- *Precision* (or Confidence) [141] is the proportion of predicted legitimate users that are correctly real legitimate ($TP/(TP+FP)$). A balance with Recall should be achieved, again maximizing TP.
- *F-measure* (or F-score) [78] is the harmonic mean (average of ratios, percentages) of precision and recall ($2 \times ((\text{precision} \times \text{recall}) / (\text{precision} + \text{recall}))$). It can be considered an alternative to measure accuracy, which should be maximized.
- Usability refers to the simplicity of using the CA system. It is linked to a pair of issues, the minimization of FN and then preventing the system to be blocked unnecessarily; and the minimization of the time the system is blocked unnecessarily.
- Energy consumption consists of studying the use of energy involved in the CA process. In IoT, resource constrained devices are generally applied and energy consumption should be minimum to help maximize the life time of the device.

From all evaluation metrics, FAR, FRR and EER stand out over the rest with 29, 26 and 28 proposals respectively (Table 3). Afterwards, ROC is used in 12 works from which just [124][42][75] consider ROC area. Usability and energy consumption present interesting results. The former is addressed from different perspectives. It has been considered in 6 proposals (e.g. [67], [198]) using metrics such as FAR or FRR. On the other hand, [123][50][56] deal with usability minimizing the blocking time, [66] analyses it based on a survey, [117][83][143][69][51][153] mention it and [84][125][126] point it out as a matter of future work. Similarly, energy consumption is measured in [195][168][166][66], mentioned in [125][108][71][142] and considered as a future issue in [138]. It is also noticed that TRR is not measured in any proposal. On the other hand, [148] does not perform any kind of evaluation, [41] is not focused on the evaluation of the authentication system and [142] only presents a theoretical evaluation.

5 INDUSTRY STATUS: RESEARCH PROJECTS, MARKET PERSPECTIVES AND STANDARDS

The industry has also been involved in developing IoT-based CA products. This matter is studied from the point of view of research projects (Section 5.1), the market (Section 5.2) and existing standards (Section 5.3).

5.1 Research projects analysis

The status of IoT-based CA advances can be also identified in research projects. The first CA project began in 2006, it was called HUMABIO [2] and it was focused on the use of CA in critical environments like laboratories. From then on, looking for CA research projects that can be found in English, 12 have been granted, where the ending date of half of them is between 2018 and 2020 [4–8] and a couple of them have been completed in 2017 [3, 17]. This shows the current interest in the development of CA solutions.

These projects are funded by international and national agencies – 5 of them are granted by the European Union [2, 3, 6, 17, 145] and another 5 by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) [4, 5, 5, 7, 8].

Concerning their goals, Pico [3] is the only project which presents a hardware solution (i.e., a token). It uses short-range radio to authenticate users continuously throughout a session in applications which can be locked or unlocked based on the presence of users' Pico. By contrast, there are projects in which CA is commonly enforced using data collected from wearable devices [2, 4–6]. For instance, [4] leverages multiple sensors embedded in handheld and wearable devices for strong user authentication. It tries to combine data from wearables and cues extracted from the phone itself to continuously and unobtrusively verify the authenticity of the user. Moreover, [8] proposes the use of touches in the screen of mobile devices improving security and usability of authentication, e.g. detecting unauthorized access to a mobile device in a continuous manner. Biosignals and heart rate specially, continues being the most popular one and it is used in [7] for CA purposes. In line with academic research (recall Section 2), *biosignals* and *touch* seem to be promising IoT-based CA features which worth studying.

All projects have to be evaluated according to their goals. However, a usability analysis is essential to prevent the development of approaches that turn out to be unsuitable for the real world. Though all projects are evaluated, [8] is the only one that mentions the need of usability of authentication and [6] goes a step forward pointing out the need of balancing usability, privacy and performance.

5.2 Market perspectives

The benefits of CA have crossed many boundaries and the market has welcome this kind of initiatives. A total of 32 companies have developed a CA product. Most of them do not directly link their products to IoT but they are studied for being CA products which can be used and/or integrated into IoT devices. Table 4 presents companies, name of developed products (if any), CA features and if it is a hardware (HW) or a software (SW) product. In the latter case, it depicts the type and possible devices in which it can be used. Note that *x* means not addressed and ‘-’ not mentioned.

Very limited information is provided about the insights of the authentication process. This is an expected issue because secrets usually remain hidden for competitive reasons. Companies mention some general features used in the CA process but without going into details. Behavioral analysis is the most common approach, 6 products consider behavioral biometrics and 5 users' behavior. Moreover, *touch* is used in 7 products and *contextual features* in 6. The use of *biosignals* is relevant in 5 products. However, 9 companies do not specify any kind of feature.

Other issue to notice is the fact that most products are software and just [158][132][32][169] offer a hardware solution. The benefit of a software solution is that it does not require the possession of a particular device to do the authentication, thus relieving for the burden of having many gadgets. Besides, they are usually cheaper or there are some parts of the product which can be used for free or for a small amount of money. Likewise, a software can be easily updated through the Internet. On the contrary, a HW solution can be designed with ergonomics in mind, thus potentially leading to higher comfort and usability levels. More importantly, there are features like *biosignals* which should be collected by some kind of HW device, e.g. a wearable [169].

In terms of software products, we can distinguish between those which are a product themselves; or those which are toolsets, e.g. an API, thus used to create a CA solution. A total of 21 companies offer products, while there are 6 which provide a toolset. From those offering a product, most of them present applications for mobile devices [18, 20, 103, 132, 199], and other significant set present software solutions without specification [26, 35, 73, 90, 97, 128, 130, 174]. However, there are 10 software products which do not detail the type of product which is offered and the generic term ‘solution’ is used instead.

Concerning software products, regardless of the type, they are mostly developed for mobile devices (17 products). Web security is also a concern for several companies, 6 in particular. Nonetheless, it is surprising to identify that 8

Table 4. Market analysis. CA products

Product name	Features	HW	SW	
			Type	Devices
[20]	Touch, contextual features	x	Product	Mobile
SensifyID [199]	User behavior, contextual features	x	Product	Web, mobile and sensor devices
Kryptowire's Continuous Authentication [103]	Touch	x	Product	Mobile
[140]	Touch	x	Toolset	-
[35]	Behavioural biometrics	x	Product	-
ThisData Verify API [179]	User behavior		Toolset	-
BehavioSense [33]	User behavior	x	Product	Desktop and mobile
Behavior ID [177]	Touch	x	Toolset	Web and mobile
SecureAuth IdP [158]	Behavioural biometrics	Identity Provider	Product	-
DIGIPASS for Apps Behavioral Authentication [184]	Touch	x	Toolset	Mobile
[159]	Behavioural biometrics	x	Toolset	-
IdentityX [54]	-	x	-	-
NoPassword [130]	Touch, contextual features	x	Product	Mobile, web and desktops (workstations)
[146]	Biosignal, gait, location, biometric traits	-	-	-
OneClick [77]	-	x	Product	Mobile and web
Nymi band, Nymi Companion application [132]	Biosignal	Wearable	Product	Mobile
Aetna mobile app [18]	User behavior	x	Product	Mobile
[181]	Touch	x	Toolset	-
VeridiumID [185]	Behavioural biometrics	x	Product	Mobile
UnifyID [183]		x	Product	Mobile and web
[174]		x	Product	Web
[97]	Biometric traits	x	Product	Mobile and desktop
TickStream.CV [26]	Text properties and more	x	Product	-
[137]	Behavioural biometrics, contextual features	x	-	-
Olea HeartSignature [128]	Biosignal	x	Product	-
Cognitive CA [16]	-	-	-	-
FastAccess and 3DVerify [161]	Biometric trait	-	Product	Mobile and desktop
[74]	-	-	-	-
[32]	Biosignal	Biosensor for wearable and smart devices	-	
biolock [169]	Biosignal	Biosensor emdded into steering wheel and a mobile application	-	-
idNSure [90]	-	x	Product	-
Bitwoke FIDO Authenticator [36]	User behavior	-	-	-

companies do not provide information about devices in which their products can be used. Even worst is the fact that 5 companies do not mention the type of software and the type of device they are offering and a couple of them do not even mention if they offer a hardware or a software product.

5.3 Standards

In the standardisation field, both the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) play a relevant role in the information technology area. ISO/IEC:9798 specifies a family of entity authentication protocols. It consists of five parts, the first one provides background for the other parts (Part1 [10]). Authentication protocols are divided in four parts, protocols using symmetric encryption (Part 2 [11]),

those using digital signatures (Part 3 [12]), those using cryptographic check functions such as message authentication codes (Part 4 [13]) and those applying zero-knowledge techniques (Part 5 [14]).

Other standard is ISO/IEC 29115:2013 [9]. It provides a framework for managing entity authentication assurance in a given context. Basically, it presents four levels of assurance, guidelines to reach such levels, as well as guidelines to exchange results of the authentication and others concerning controls to mitigate authentication threats.

More recently, ISO/IEC 17922 [1] describes a telebiometric (remote life measurement) authentication scheme. A biometric hardware security module (BHSM) is used for the telebiometric authentication of a user who has an ITU-T X.509 public key certificate embedded in the BHSM. Then, it presents the requirements to enforce a secure deployment of a BHSM.

Currently under review, ISO/IEC 24761 [182] describes the structure and data of the authentication context for biometrics. It is used for checking the validity of the result of a biometric verification process executed at a remote site.

Despite the existence of several standards related to authentication, CA has been neglected. There is a need for CA standards regarding the development of CA systems which help tackle problems like the following ones:

- How many features should be applied in a CA system? Does it depend on the context (i.e. IoT)?
- What is the amount of EER or FP/TP admissible in a CA system? In this way, what is the max-min time the device should be blocked if the authentication fails and considers a user illegitimate? In this regard, what kind of enforcement algorithms could be applied?
- Trying to reduce usability problems, what should be the highest power consumption of a CA system?

6 LESSONS LEARNED

Based on the performed survey, a set of eight lessons learned can be pointed out. They are intended not only to clarify the main takeaway points for each issue. For the sake of clarity, these lessons are ordered following the general scheme of this paper and not in terms of their relevance.

Lesson 1. CA by means of user-related IoT devices is receiving extensive attention from both industry and academia. The significant amount of papers that have been found, along with the number of market initiatives, highlight the relevance of this research field. According to their distribution in time, these efforts have been constantly supported in almost a decade.

Lesson 2. Academic proposals are largely unlinked to particular scenarios. This trend seems to be natural in immature research areas, in which the foundations are still to be laid. In these cases, theoretical approaches are needed to set the grounds for future developments. However, after the analysis it has become clear that this is not the case of IoT-based CA. There are two facts that support this claim. On the one hand, the said great amount of initiatives point out the maturity of this area. On the other hand, it must be noted that IoT devices have been developed much before the application in CA, and even CA is an evolution of the widely explored matter of authentication. As a result, the degree of theoretical uncertainty is limited.

Lesson 3. Portable devices are preferred. In line with their adoption through time, portable devices, and mobile phones in particular, are the most common IoT devices for CA. When more constrained devices are considered, such as wearable or implantable ones, it is common to rely on third parties (e.g. a powerful server or a cloud-based infrastructure) to carry out the computation, either totally or partially.

Lesson 4. Behavioral biometrics is receiving extensive attention, mainly leveraging biosignals, touch and location data. Most considered papers address one particular form of this branch of biometrics. The generalization

of the said sensorial capabilities of IoT devices has enabled this evolution over time. Recalling the previous lesson, it is important to analyse the relationship of devices and features. Table 5 summarizes this analysis. In short, portable devices appear to be the one-for-all solution. This may probably be due to the amount of sensors they have, the facility of their use (e.g. located in our pocket) and its economic price. Wearables (e.g. smart glasses [47]) are also used for collecting multiple raw features specially, but despite the simplicity of their use, the price can be a differentiating factor. Moreover, they typically do not offer as many possibilities as portable devices. On the other hand, the acquisition of body-related data, namely biosignals, is usually achieved by implantable devices. Since these devices may not be accessible to everyone at anytime, the use of wearables could be a nice alternative [40].

Table 5. Devices used to extract each feature

		Portable	Wearables	Implantable	External
RAW	Body-related d.	x	√	√	√
	S.Motion	√	√	x	x
	S.Environmental	√	x	x	x
	S.Position	√	√	x	x
	Accessories m.d.	√	√	x	x
DERIVED	Gait	√	x	x	x
	Position in the seat	x	x	x	x
	Biometric trait	√	x	x	x
	Touch dynamics	√	√	x	x
	Location	√	x	x	x
	Text properties	x	x	x	x
	Contextual f.	x	x	x	x

Lesson 5. Classifiers are by far the preferred technology for authentication enforcement in academia.

Since the vast majority of papers consider different variants of existing classifiers, this can be considered as the *de facto* standard in this research area. This evidence seems to favor future developments based on existing techniques, rather than ad-hoc approaches. Apart from this fact, it is interesting to explore the link between features and algorithms to spot open research directions. Table 6 summarizes this analysis. Surprisingly, features *contextual features* and *position in the seat* have not been studied based on any particular algorithm yet. Similarly, other like *environmental sensors* are just applied for K-NN (in stream version) and Others algorithms. By contrast, features like *touch dynamics*, *mobile device information* and *motion sensors* have been studied in regard to most algorithms, namely in 10, 11 and 9 algorithms respectively.

Table 6. Features vs Algorithms

		Classifiers								Clustering				Similarity score	Others
		NN	K-NN	EL	DT	RF	BY	SVM	AH	KM	GMM	D	IBL		
RAW	Body-related d.	x	Stream/√	√	x	x	√	√	x	x	x	x	√	√	x
	Motion sensors	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	x	x	√
	Environmental sensors	x	Stream	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	√
	Position sensors	√	√	x	√	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	x	√
	Mobile device platform info	√	√	x	Stream/√	√	√	√	√	x	x	√	√	√	√
DERIVED	Gait	x	x	x	x	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Position in the seat	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Biometric trait	x	x	x	x	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Touch dynamics	√	√	x	√	√	√	√	x	x	x	√	√	√	√
	Location	x	√	x	Stream	x	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Text properties	√	√	x	x	x	x	x	√	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Contextual f.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Lesson 6. There is a consensus on evaluation metrics. When it comes to assessing research proposals, most authors rely upon a reduced set of metrics – FAR, FRR and EER being the preferred choices.

Lesson 7. Market approaches are prioritizing software products based on similar features to those in academic works. The market analysis has shown a prevalence of software products in detriment of hardware ones. Although this may be caused to the productions costs and pace, this fact can encourage novel investments in hardware-based products. Concerning the set of features for achieving CA, market initiatives are significantly based on different features related to behavioral biometrics. Specifically, both market and academia show the prevalence of *body-related data*, particularly biosignals, and *touch* features. This market-academia alignment may be beneficial to further improve the maturity of this field, since research results are more likely to be transferred to the market. As an example of the benefit of this symbiosis, the work by Nakanishi et al. has pointed out the increased resilience achieved by a multi-device CA technique in vehicles [126]. However, the market has not exploited this direction yet.

Lesson 8. CA standards are lacking. Despite the said connection between academia and market, the lack of standards can become a barrier for the development of this area. In the absence of standards, the lack of best practices and common grounds may contribute to have duplicate efforts, recurring errors and a lack of assessment guidelines.

7 CHALLENGES AND OPEN ISSUES

Many IoT-based CA systems have been developed either in the academy or in the industry. In this regard, challenges to overcome and open issues to address are pointed out herein. They are classified according to those identified along the proposed study and those devised by authors as a consequence of the study.

- **Identified along the study**

- (1) **Need of focused proposals.** The development of IoT-based CA approaches used in a general scenario are a nice alternative. However, choosing concrete scenarios is highly recommended because each of them has particular characteristics which prevent the use of a general approach to reach conclusive results. It means that there is a need to consider that the realism of datasets should be as close to reality as possible to avoid deviations from the real world. For instance, touching a mobile phone screen while running, walking or standing, may produce extremely different results. Likewise, the heart rate of a child is not the same as an elderly man. In general, except for [144] in which collected data involves participants carrying out different activities (e.g., walking, jogging, etc.), no dataset considers situations out of a controlled environment. As a side effect, there are some particular scenarios that still remain unexplored. For example, there is not any single proposal focused on healthcare applications.
- (2) **Need of lightweight approaches.** IoT devices have intrinsic limitations in terms of battery and storage, though these limitations may differ between devices. A lack of lightweight CA approaches is identified in this regard. This trend is similar to what happened in the early times of smartcards. Thus, this research line may build upon previous cryptographic primitives that were specially developed for those resource-limited devices.
- (3) **Release of comprehensive datasets.** Our analysis shows that there is a need of publicly available large-scale datasets, both in terms of users and collection time. In their absence, authors are using small datasets which can be an obstacle for the generalization of the achieved results. In this regard, usability considerations cannot be neglected if public acceptance is a matter for an IoT-based CA approach. In the absence of rich datasets, the analysis of this feature cannot lead to representative conclusions. The same situation happens with energy considerations.

Completeness of a dataset is defined as being big enough and having data collected from IoT devices of different brands and versions, different operating systems and operating system versions. The size of the dataset is

1249 essential to attest the validity of results and specially for CA the bigger the dataset, the better. In the same way,
1250 it is possible that IoT devices, either having different brand, version, operating system or operating system
1251 version, do not collect exactly the same data. This could affect system parameters or algorithms and thus,
1252 impact the success of the CA system.
1253

- 1254 (4) **Demand of CA standards.** Standards for CA systems have to be developed to help in the specification of
1255 parameters and algorithms. This could be the main step to improve these systems and, above all, to simplify
1256 their comparison. Indeed, comparisons are essential to choose the best alternative for each scenario.
1257
- 1258 (5) **Selection of the best blocking strategy against illegitimate users to reach a compromise between**
1259 **security, usability and, in some cases, safety.** In an authentication system the execution of some kind of
1260 blocking activity when an impostor is authenticated is mandatory. However, this problem is far from having
1261 a trivial solution specially when security, usability or even safety come into play. In case of IoT devices like
1262 smartphones, blocking the phone and asking for a password could be the most suitable and common solution
1263 but it cannot be applied to all scenarios. For instance, a CA system in a car studies how the legitimate user
1264 is sitting but if an illegitimate user is detected while driving, a possible solution is to automatically call the
1265 police and/ or the car owner. This issue is commonly left out of the scope in most of proposals but it should be
1266 specially considered in those affecting safety, such as [148] in which the driving speed is a feature.
1267
- 1268 (6) **Deep study of enforcement algorithms.** Currently, K-NN is one of the most used enforcement algorithms
1269 but there are others like GMM or KM which are left aside. An analysis of the appropriateness of chosen
1270 algorithms for each feature would help researcher on choosing the most suitable algorithm.
1271

1272 • **Devised as a consequence of the study**
1273

- 1274 (7) **Threats analysis.** Each particular scenario can be affected by a set of threats, even being similar between
1275 scenarios. In this way, it is not the same to consider an attacker which tries to impersonate a user trying
1276 to create fake features, than considering an attacker that steals the IoT device that collects the CA features.
1277 Therefore, building a comprehensive threat taxonomy will be helpful for two reasons. On the one hand, it will
1278 help researchers on identifying threats. On the other hand, proposals will be easily comparable as they base
1279 on the same underlying model.
1280
- 1281 (8) **IoT-based CA vs privacy.** The development of usable approaches is a desirable issue and the use of CA is an
1282 alternative (recall Section 3). Nonetheless, from a security point of view usability cannot be prior to privacy
1283 [49]. There is a gap between the use of IoT-based CA and the privacy issues that could arise. For instance,
1284 the GPS data to continuously authenticate a user has already been used but considerations towards privacy
1285 problems are not a priority. In this example, if users' positions are somehow discovered by illegitimate users,
1286 undesirable causes may occur (e.g. burglaries of houses). Not all IoT-based CA features are privacy-related but
1287 an study on this direction would be an interesting way to analyse the usability that CA offers and the security
1288 that all systems should provide.
1289
- 1290 (9) **IoT-based CA in the cloud.** Given resource limitations, namely battery and storage, of IoT devices used for
1291 CA, the support of the cloud poses interesting possibilities. There is a limited number of proposals that use
1292 the cloud to manage CA (e.g. [47]). Thus, protocols and schemes should be developed to specify how data
1293 should be transmitted from the IoT device to the cloud and vice versa, as well as how data has to be processed
1294 either in the IoT device or in the cloud. For instance, [79] proposes a framework for securely and privately
1295 outsourcing continuous authentication to a server based on touch data. This paper could be considered an
1296 initial step in this regard.
1297
1298
1299
1300

- 1301 (10) **Enhancement of CA systems in smartphones and capacity of data collection in wearables. The**
 1302 **development of CA systems** should go towards the enhancement of CA approaches for smartphones because
 1303 they are well-known and worldwide used. Moreover, the industry should work towards the improvement of
 1304 the capacity of data collection in wearables. Biosignals in particular are interesting CA features but only a
 1305 portion of wearables are able to retrieve these signals.
 1306
- 1307 (11) **Prevention and analysis of injection attacks in IoT devices.** Researchers and developers rely on IoT
 1308 devices as trusted sources to collect data. What could happen if sources are attacked? If collected data is not as
 1309 accurate as expected, an illegitimate user could be authenticated as the legitimate one. For instance, in a CA
 1310 system based on the gyroscope, if this sensor is attacked and manipulated to provide fake data, access could be
 1311 illegitimately granted. Some study mentions the problem of injection attacks in sensors, e.g. in a particular
 1312 type of accelerometers [180], but there is a growing need of research in this direction. Indeed, it is close to a
 1313 family of techniques called adversarial machine learning [87], which have not been explored in the context of
 1314 IoT yet.
 1315
- 1316 (12) **Selection of the optimal set of features according to the risk level posed by the attacker.** There are
 1317 many different features but not all of them can be attacked in the same way. Expectedly, higher risk is relegated
 1318 to those features which are easier targets in a given scenario. For instance, it is presumably easier to create
 1319 a malicious WiFi access point than attacking the gyroscope of a smartphone. Thus, prior to the selection of
 1320 features, the risk to use one or another should be evaluated. Specifically, a study presenting a general overview
 1321 of this challenge remains as an open issue.
 1322
- 1323 (13) **Dynamic CA systems resilient to environmental and/ or context changes.** There are features which
 1324 are collected in cooperation with a third element, e.g. WiFi or GPS. The unavailability of these elements for
 1325 a period of time should be managed. For example, if a user is continuously authenticated considering the
 1326 WiFi signal strength/direction (among other features), and the connection is lost at some point in time, the
 1327 authentication process should be able to manage the situation. Some authentication works introduce the idea
 1328 of dynamism, e.g. the login identifier changes each time [55], but they are neither focused on IoT nor on CA.
 1329
- 1330 (14) **Privacy-preserving trust management of IoT data sources.** Current IoT-based CA approaches rely upon
 1331 a single device to provide data. However, if the device is compromised or malfunctioning, the whole CA
 1332 enforcement can be put at risk. Given the great amount of IoT devices, the consistency of the provided data by
 1333 one of them can be confronted with information coming from others. Despite the existing venues for future
 1334 research on this matter [193], managing trust in the context of CA may raise additional privacy concerns if data
 1335 from other subjects comes into play. Therefore, it is necessary to research on trust management mechanisms
 1336 that are privacy-respectful.
 1337
 1338
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 1344

1345 Figure 6 summarizes open issues and challenges related to steps of the design process of a IoT-based CA system. For
 1346 instance, in the ‘enforcement step’ the use of *lightweight approaches* should be considered and/ or developed. Other
 1347 example is the *selection of the optimal set of features according to the risk level posed by the attacker*, which should be
 1348 carried out in line with the ‘feature selection’ step. Note that the *demand of CA standards* is transversal because such
 1349 standards should be developed regardless of the steps of a CA system.
 1350

1351

1352

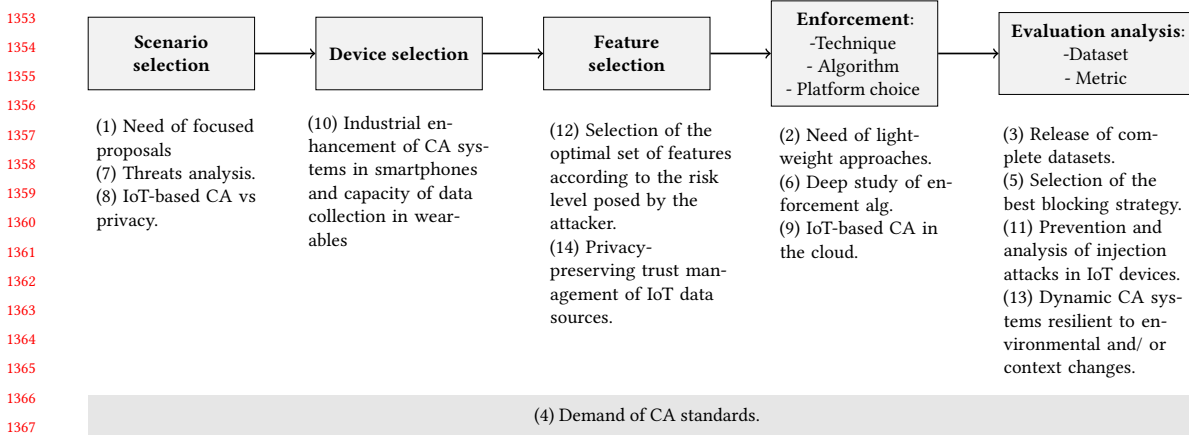


Fig. 6. Open issues and challenges in regard to the design process of an IoT-based CA approach

8 RELATED WORK

The novelty of this proposal is studied by comparison against surveys focused on IoT security and surveys focused on IoT-based CA. Table 7 presents a summary.

First of all, security in IoT has been studied to some extent specially since 2015. Most proposals devote some attention to authentication (\surd), discussing some issues in this regard, while four of them mention authentication but very superficially (\surd^*). Surprisingly, [53] does not even mention authentication and none of the proposals refers to CA. Besides, authentication is studied for multiple purposes. There are authentication protocols such as [23], which introduces authentication to describe the IEEE 802.15.4 protocol. It is used to define the operation of low-rate wireless personal area networks. Authentication has also been considered in Wireless sensor networks (WSN) [197], sensors distributed to monitor physical and environmental conditions and authentication is mandatory to regulate access to collected data; and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) [38, 118], a technology to identify objects located at a certain distance without direct contact. RFID tags are specially well-known for this purpose. Indeed, [150] refers to authentication in IoT entities like servers or clients and just [76] and [193] use the term user authentication, which is what we consider herein.

Moving towards IoT-based CA proposals, half of them focus on mobile devices [136, 155, 176]. [155, 163] are short papers which try to provide a general overview about continuous authentication, being [155] specially focused on mobile devices. Also presenting a quite general approach [172] introduces the title of CA approaches and features applied. However, it is not directly related to IoT, it works on behavioral biometrics. Also indirectly related to IoT, [21, 22] put the focus on multibiometric authentication, introducing briefly features, datasets and evaluation metrics. A final remark refers to the number of studied works. [21, 22, 136, 172] study 29, 28, 30 and 29 works respectively but more proposals have already been developed and not exclusively for mobile devices. Similarly, [176] studies 47 proposals but, apart from being exclusively focused on touch dynamics, its focus is not CA.

9 CONCLUSIONS

We are surrounded by technology which connects to the Internet, called Internet-of-Things (IoT). The widespread adoption of IoT and the fact that users commonly use user-related IoT devices everywhere and everytime, encourage the

Table 7. Related work summary

IoT security surveys				
Title	Year	Authentication	CA	Authentication purpose
An overview of privacy and security issues in the internet of things [118]	2010	√	x	RFID
Security in the Internet of Things: A Review [173]	2012	√*	x	Protocol
A survey on the internet of things security [197]	2013	√	x	WSN
On the features and challenges of security and privacy in distributed internet of things [150]	2013	√	x	IoT entities
A survey on trust management for Internet of Things [193]	2014	√*	x	User and IoT devices
Internet of things: A survey on enabling technologies, protocols, and applications [23]	2015	√	x	Protocol
Security for the internet of things: a survey of existing protocols and open research issues [80]	2015	√	x	Protocol
Survey of security and privacy issues of Internet of Things [38]	2015	√	x	RFID
Security and Privacy Challenges in Industrial Internet of Things [152]	2015	√*	x	WSN
Towards an Analysis of Security Issues, Challenges, and Open Problems in the Internet of Things [85]	2015	√	x	IoT device
Smart Cities: A Survey on Data Management, Security, and Enabling Technologies [76]	2017	√*	x	Users
Internet of Things: Survey on Security and Privacy [119]	2017	√	x	Protocol
Smart secure homes: a survey of smart home technologies that sense, assess, and respond to security threats [53]	2017	X	x	x
Internet of things Security: A Survey [24]	2017	√	x	IoT device
Internet of Things: A survey on the security of IoT frameworks [25]	2018	√	x	IoT device
CA IoT surveys				
Title	Year	Description		# studied works
A Survey of Continuous and Transparent Multibiometric Authentication Systems [21]	2015	It presents an analysis of works related to continuous and multibiometric authentication but they are not really focused on IoT. It also depicts and introduces very briefly features, datasets and evaluation metrics.		29
Continuous and transparent multimodal authentication: reviewing the state of the art [22]	2016	It describes authentication methods and technologies to afterwards present a review of existing continuous and transparent multimodal authentication approaches. In these CA approaches evaluation metrics, number of participants in the evaluation, applied features and devices are mentioned.		28
Expanding continuous authentication with mobile devices [155]	2015	It simply mentions the good point of continuous authentication, specially in mobile devices.		Short paper
A Review of Continuous Authentication Using Behavioral Biometrics [172]	2016	It presents a general overview of continuous authentication approaches introducing their title and features involved. It is not specially focused on IoT but in CA through behavioral biometrics.		30
Continuous user authentication on mobile devices: Recent progress and remaining challenges [136]	2016	It focuses on continuous authentication approaches in mobile devices paying attention to the type of used classifier, features and performance rate, including the evaluation metric.		29
A survey on touch dynamics authentication in mobile devices [176]	2016	It presents a timeline of touch dynamics, algorithms applied, used datasets and main evaluation metrics.		47
Continuous Authentication and Authorization for the Internet of Things [163]	2017	It mentions some continuous authentication features. It does not really perform an analysis of existing works because it is a short paper.		Short paper

1457 use of IoT for authentication purposes. In particular, the authentication of users persistently, which is called Continuous
1458 Authentication (CA), relieves the problem of being impersonated at any time. This paper presents a comprehensive study
1459 of IoT-based CA from the academic and industrial point of view. To the best of the authors knowledge, all academic
1460 proposals up to now (58 in total) are studied regarding steps of the authentication process. Likewise, the industry status
1461 is considered in terms of existing research projects, the market (32 products in total) and developed standards. From the
1462 analysis a set of open issues and weaknesses to address in future works are outlined.

1463 In summary, this survey seeks to help researches and practitioners in the development of new solutions having a
1464 holistic view about the current status of IoT-based CA developments, which is a current and dynamic area.
1465

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Table 1. Analysis of academic approaches (Part 1)

Cite	Year	Device	Features		Enforcement		Evaluation				Operating system	
			Raw	Derived	Algorithm	Open Device (OS, Third Party (TP))	Developed (D) / Public (P)	n participants	Data length	Metric		
[47]	2016	Wearable (Smart glasses)	Touch	Touch dynamics	SVM (Gaussian kernel), AH/Chelyshev classifier (pre-processed by them)	Open Device (Android)	D	36	-	-	EER, FPR, EER	Android
[18]	2017	Wearable (Smart glasses)	Touch, accelerometer, gyroscope, magnetometer, microphone, a motion, a position	Touch dynamics	SVM	TP (consumer)	D	12	Multiple sessions	FAR, EER, energy consumption for future work	FAR, EER	Android
[195]	2017	Wearable sensors	Accelerometer, a motion	-	RF	TP (smartphone, collect data through wearable)	D	30	9mins	TP, FP, precision, energy consumption	FAR, EER	Android
[144]	2017	Wearable device not specified	Accelerometer, a motion	-	EL (boosting)	TP assumed but not mentioned	F (REALLIFE, test bench-based)	17	-	FAR, EER	FAR, EER	-
[142]	2017	Wearable device not specified	Accelerometer, gyroscope, a motion	-	EL (boosting)	OD (wearable)	F (Perspective Systems Research Group's (PDRG) Sensor Activity Dataset)	19	15mins	EER, area, ROC, precision, recall, accuracy, confusion matrix, FAR, EER	FAR, EER	Android
[125]	2017	Wearable sensors	Physiological data (his signal)	-	SVM (linear and RBF kernel), EL (boosting)	TP (server)	F (SHIMMID)	Not specified	Estimated stay	FAR, EER, Unability (GSM)	FAR, EER	-
[105]	2013	Implantable (holder)	Physiological data (his signal)	-	-	TP assumed but not mentioned	F (IEEE-802-003 battery, Digital Electronics diagram, Algorithm IDEAL, dataset)	185	24h	FAR, EER	FAR, EER	-
[42]	2017	Monitor like device not specified	Physiological data (his signal)	-	Stream K-NN	TP assumed but not mentioned	F (IEEE 802-15-4) Normal Sinus Rhythm Database)	19	24h	TP, FP, Precision, Recall, F-measure, ROC area	FAR, EER	-
[171]	2017	External device (monitor)	Physiological data (his signal)	-	SVM (linear kernel), K-NN	TP assumed but not mentioned	F (IEEE 802-15-4) Normal Sinus Rhythm Database)	18	15min	TP, FN, EER, F-measure, Balanced accuracy (BAC), usability	FAR, EER	Android
[17]	2013	-	Physiological data (PPG, his signal)	-	Similarity score	TP assumed but not mentioned	D	44	2min	FAR, EER	FAR, EER	-
[121]	2015	Wearable sensors	Near infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) signals	-	SVM	TP assumed but not mentioned	D	18	-	FAR, EER	FAR, EER	-
[52]	2009	Wearable sensors	Physiological data (ECG his signal)	-	IBL	TP assumed but not mentioned	D	15	15min	Unability	Unability	-
[43]	2014	Wearable sensors	Physiological data (ECG his signal and blood pressure)	-	Similarity score	TP (portable device and server)	-	-	-	Unability mentioned but not really measured	Unability	-
[141]	2016	-	Physiological data (ECG his signal)	-	EL (Bagging)	TP assumed but not mentioned	D	1012, 200	-	FAR, EER, ROC	FAR, EER	Android
[146]	2016	Portable (mobile device)	Accelerometer, gyroscope, a motion	Touch dynamics	SVM	OD (portable device)	D	100	3-4h	EER, energy consumption	EER, ROC	Android
[43]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	WE, Cell, GPS, device model, language, screen size	Data stream DT	-	OD (portable device)	D	6	-	Confusion matrix, Unability mentioned	Unability	-
[44]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Physiological data (his signal)	Touch dynamics	SVM	OD (portable device)	D	19	-	TP, FN, usability for future work	FAR, EER	Windows
[122]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Cellular, orientation, his signal, a position	Touch dynamics	NN, SVM	OD (portable device)	F (publicly available average gesture dataset)	Non specified	-	FAR, EER	FAR, EER	Android
[94]	2014	Portable (mobile device)	Call, SMS, Application usage	-	-	OD (portable device)	F (MIT Reality Dataset)	106	-	FAR, EER, usability through FAR and FPR	FAR, EER	-
[90]	2013	Portable (mobile device)	Touch dynamics	Touch dynamics	K-NN SVM (RBF function)	OD (portable device)	D	41	-	FAR, EER, usability mentioned	FAR, EER	Android
[92]	2014	Portable (mobile device)	Touch dynamics	Touch dynamics	SVM (RBF kernel)	OD (portable device)	D	30	1month	FAR, EER, ROC	FAR, EER, ROC	Android
[91]	2014	Portable (mobile device)	Touch dynamics	Touch dynamics	SVM (linear kernel)	OD (portable device)	D	315	-	FPR, FPR, ROC, ROC	FPR, FPR, ROC, ROC	Android
[51]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, magnetometer, a motion, a position	Biometric feature	SVM (RBF kernel)	OD (portable device)	D	24	15min	FAR, EER, ROC, usability mentioned	FAR, EER, ROC	Android
[194]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Biometric feature	Biometric feature	SVM (RBF kernel)	OD (portable device)	F (Public dataset)	132, 50	-	FAR, TAR, ROC	FAR, TAR, ROC	-
[125]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Power consumption, touch, accelerometer, gyroscope, magnetometer, barometer, photometer, call, cellular, a motion, a position, a communication	Touch dynamics Others (IoT/UE)	Others (IoT/UE)	OD (portable device)	D	73	9mins	FAR, EER, usability for future work, energy consumption mentioned not measured	FAR, EER	Android
[96]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, microphone	Touch dynamics	K-NN, DT, RF	OD (portable device)	D	2	-	Precision, usability	Precision, usability	-
[100]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, accelerometer, gyroscope, a motion	Touch dynamics	SVM	OD (portable device)	D	150	-	Confusion matrix, recall, accuracy, precision, F-measure	Confusion matrix, recall, accuracy, precision, F-measure	Android

Table 2. Analysis of academic approaches (Part 2)

Cite	Year	Device	Features		Enforcement		Evaluation			Operating system	
			Raw	Derived	Algorithm	Own Device (OS, Third Party (TP))	Developed (D) / Public (P)	# participants	Data length		Metric
[104]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	SVM (linear kernel)	GD (portable device)	D	51	-	FAR, FRR, ROC	Android
[178]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	K-NN	GD (portable device)	D	22	-	EEB	Android
[68]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	DT, RF, BY	GD (portable device)	D	No specific	-	FAR, FRR, usability through FAR & FRR	Android
[151]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	ML	GD (portable device)	F (Dataset of 107)	42	-	FAR, FRR, EER, usability measured in terms of FRR	Android
[198]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	Others (Image processing)	GD (portable device)	D	30	30-60min	FAR, FAR, ROC, usability measured through EER	Android
[44]	2016	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, orientation, tilt, position	Touch dynamics	DT, RF	TP (server)	D	21	10days	FAR, FRR, ROC	Android
[167]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, acceleration & motion	Touch dynamics	DT, NN	GD (portable device)	D	5	-	FAR, FRR	iOS, Android
[67]	2012	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	DT, RF, BY	GD (portable device)	D	40	-	FAR, FRR, usability through FAR & FRR	Android
[136]	2016	Portable (mobile device)	Camera	Biometric feature	SVM (linear kernel)	GD (portable device)	F (Active Authentication Dataset (AAAD))	50	-	FRR, FAR, FAR, precision, recall	-
[41]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Touch	Touch dynamics	Others (Machine decision process)	GD (portable device)	-	-	-	Evaluation of the proposed system but not the authentication itself	-
[108]	2011	Portable (mobile device)	Application usage, call, touch		Similarity score	GD (portable device)	F (All Ready dataset)	106	-	EER, energy consumption, mentioned	-
[127]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Application usage, bluetooth, Wi-Fi		K-NN	GD (portable device)	D	200	1months	FRR	-
[71]	2016	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, application usage, GPS	Text preparation	ARXDF	GD (portable device)	D	200	3months	FAR, FRR, EER, energy consumption, mentioned	Android
[166]	2011	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, acceleration, microphone, & motion	Touch dynamics	Others (Space-time multi-modality)	GD (portable device)	D	7	-	Confusion matrix, energy consumption measured	Linux, (Droids mobile)
[153]	2014	Portable (mobile device)	Touch, call/receive data	Text preparation, touch dynamics, location	K-NN, ANN	GD (portable device)	D	No specific	-	EER, usability mentioned	-
[139]	2015	Portable (mobile device)	Acceleration, gravity sensor, gyroscope, rotational sensors, & motion	Gait	SVM	TP (server)	D	58	-	Accuracy	Android
[142]	2013	Portable (mobile device)	Location		-	TP (server)	D	18	-	Theoretical, energy consumption, mentioned	-
[66]	2017	Portable (mobile device)	Acceleration, microphone, & motion		SVM (polynomial kernel)	GD (server)	D	18	-	Usability through a survey, energy consumption (if the worst case), TP, FP	-
[148]	2012	Portable (mobile device)	GPS, bio signal, barometer, speed, & environmental	Position in real, Driving speed	-	GD (server)	-	-	-	-	-
[126]	2013	Wearable (not specified)	Physiological data (Bio signal)		Similarity score	TP assumed but no mentioned	D	23	-	Usability for fitness, FAR, FRR, ROC, EER	-
[88]	2017	Portable (mobile device)	With, application usage, location		SVM, D	TP (server)	D	-	20 days	TP, FP	Android
[196]	2017	Portable (mobile device)	S, motion		SVM, BY (non-linear), AH, (Linear regression, Kernel ridge regression)	TP (server)	D	55	-	Confusion matrix	Android
[104]	2016	Portable (mobile device)	S, motion, touch		K-NN, RF	GD (portable device)	D	28	7 days	FRR, FAR, accuracy	Android
[40]	2017	Wearable (bracelet)	Physiological data (Bio signal)		-	GD (portable device)	D	2	-	-	Android
[56]	2018	Portable (mobile device)	Power consumption, environmental, transmitted data		Shannon, K-NN	GD (portable device)	D	50	24 months	FN, usability	-
[194]	2018	Wearable (shoes)	Anatomical data (plantar pressure)		SVM (gaussian RBF kernel), BY (non-linear)	TP (server)	-	-	-	FAR, FRR	-
[111]	2018	Portable (mobile device)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, location		SVM	GD (portable device)	F [168]	100	2-hours	EEB	-
[112]	2018	Portable (mobile device)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, step, mag, rotational, & motion		SVM (gaussian RBF kernel), Others	GD (portable device)	D	100	2-hours	FAR, FRR, EER	-
[45]	2018	Portable (mobile device)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, step, mag, rotational, & motion		SVM (gaussian RBF kernel), NN	GD (portable device)	F [168]	100	2-hours	FAR, FRR, Accuracy, F-measure	-
[90]	2018	Portable (mobile device)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, step, mag, rotational, & motion		K-NN, SVM, DT	GD (portable device)	D	10	1hour	Accuracy, precision, recall, F-measure, EER	-
[15]	2018	Wearable (e.g. smartwatch)	Gyroscope, accelerometer, step, & motion		NN	TP (server)	D	54	-	EER	-