



# A secure Multimodal Biometric Authentication with Cryptographic key Management Using Double Random Phase Encoding

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## ABSTRACT

Multibiometric systems are more efficient and reliable than unibiometric systems as they can provide lower error rates as well as robustness against frauds and subsystem failures. However, the deployment of multibiometric systems in large-scale biometric applications increases the risk of users' privacy violation because once a multibiometric system is compromised; multiple biometric traits are disclosed to adversaries. As a result, protecting biometric templates stored in centralized databases of multibiometric systems has become a necessary prerequisite to allow wide-spread deployment of these systems. In this paper, we propose a biometric template protection method for securing image templates in multibiometric systems using the double random phase encoding (DRPE) scheme. DRPE is a well-known image encryption scheme and therefore it is more suited to secure image-based biometric templates. First, the proposed method encodes a randomly generated key as a binary image. Second, the phase components of two images captured from two different biometric modalities; namely, palmprint and fingerprint are convolved to produce a multi-biometric image of the same size as the binary image-encoded key. Finally, image-encoded key is encrypted using DRPE employing the multi-biometric image as a cipher key. During authentication, the encoded key is correctly recovered only if genuine biometric images are presented to the system; otherwise, the authentication process fails. Therefore, the proposed method can not only protect image-based biometric templates but also can provide a reliable means for securing cryptographic keys. Experimental results illustrate that the proposed method can secure both biometric templates and cryptographic keys without sacrificing the recognition accuracy of the underlying unprotected biometric recognition system.

## Keywords

Multimodal biometric authentication, Biometric template protection, Cryptographic key security, Double random phase encoding.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The popularization of internet services and modern communication technologies has led to much research effort in

the field of data security and privacy protection. Against such a problem, a number of authentication and data

encryption techniques have got much attention to guarantee safeguards for data and the validity of the person.

Identity-based authentication techniques are extensively used in several applications and services to truly validate the identity of a person. Traditionally, user specific passwords and/or tokens which for years have been the most widely used tools to secure systems are susceptible to many user inconvenience and unreliability issues. For instance, tokens and cards may be lost or stolen; Passwords and PINs may be forgotten, easily guessed or even broken by fraudulent attacks and long passwords are difficult to remember as well as non-certainty of who is the actual user. Biometric technologies, on the other hand, identify individuals based on linking a person with his normally unique, permanent and hard to reproduce body parts such as fingerprint, iris, voice, palmprint, face and signature. These physical and behavioral traits are unique across individuals and thereby can't be lost, stolen, guessed, borrowed or forgotten [1-2].

Traditional biometric systems are unimodal as they rely on a single biometric modality for authentication. By using unibiometric system so as to have poor accurateness with unacceptable error rates and may not be sufficient to guarantee security against spoof attacks. Multibiometric systems, on the other hand, integrate different types of biometric traits [10-16]. There are a number of benefits inherent to multimodal biometrics, the most prominent being heightened levels of security and accuracy either by reducing the false reject rate (FRR) or false accept rate (FAR) and greater levels of reliability/flexibility. However, if a multibiometric system is compromised; multiple biometric traits are disclosed to adversaries. As a result, protecting biometric templates stored in centralized databases of multibiometric systems has become a necessary prerequisite to allow wide-spread deployment of these systems, since such templates can't be revoked or reissued, like passwords and tokens [3-9]. As a solution to these issues, we proposed a

biometric template protection method for securing image templates in multibiometric systems by applying double random phase encoding (DRPE) [20].

DRPE is a well-known optical image encryption technique that based on pattern matching and the phase only correlation (POC) between encryption and decryption keys [17-18]. In short, the cipher key used in DRPE is allowed to include some redundancy between encryption and decryption. Owing to this property, biometrics information which is difficult to be used as a key on conventional cipher cryptographies [35] because of variety of acquired biometric data, can be used as a cipher key for data encryption by applying DRPE.

DRPE encrypts an input image as a stationary white noise by the means of multiplying the image with two statistically independent random phase masks as 2D images both in the spatial and Fourier domains. The second mask located at the Fourier domain serves as a cipher key of encryption process. DRPE has potential applications in fingerprint verification systems [38-45], information hiding [22], watermarking [21], color image encryption [24], and multiple image encryption [23, 29].

In this paper, the proposed method first encodes a randomly generated key as a binary image. Second, the phase components of two images captured from two different biometric modalities; namely, palmprint and fingerprint are convolved to produce a multi-biometric image of the same size as the binary image-encoded key. Finally, image-encoded key is encrypted using DRPE employing the multi-biometric image as a cipher key. During authentication, the encoded key is correctly recovered only if genuine biometric images are presented to the system; otherwise, the authentication process fails. Therefore, the proposed method can not only protect image-based biometric templates but also can provide a reliable means for securing cryptographic keys. Computer simulations have been carried out to support the objectives of the proposed method to secure both biometric templates and cryptographic keys without sacrificing the recognition accuracy of the underlying unprotected biometric recognition system that today's system environment demands.

The paper is organized as follows. Section (2) Related works, Section (3) Overview of DRPE, Section (4) Implementation details of the proposed method, Section (5) Results and Discussion, Section (6) Conclusion.

## 2. Related Works

From the literature researches have been reported for applying DRPE to biometrics, brief reviews of such research work are consulted here. Hiroyuki Suzuki et. al.[38] proposed a hybrid PIN and fingerprint verification system for smart card holder authentication based on DRPE. The probability of accurate verification decreases remarkably due to the influence of fingerprints that are shifted significantly or with different rotation angles. In ref. [39], they review the proposed system and present a preprocessing to detect the shift amount and eliminate significantly shifted fingerprint images to improve the FRR. However, the verification accuracy is lower than that of conventional system and its security level is insufficient. In ref. [45], they proposed shift and rotation invariant method for the purpose of eliminating tags from the plain image and correct rotation angles of fingerprint images. The proposed method provided sufficient FRR as well as the conventional method. Ref. [40], presented the development of file encryption software using a key created from fingerprint

by applying DRPE. In ref. [42], they proposed a novel bit coding method that makes impostor decrypted images more random compared with the conventional method. The main feature of this proposed method is that the restored bit pattern image is not shifted even if the fingerprint image used for decryption is shifted with respect to that used for encryption. In ref. [44], they proposed an encrypted sensing system for personal authentication in which fingerprint images are captured using digital holography with DRPE. The principal advantage of this system is that it can enhance the security of biometric authentication by capturing optically encrypted images rather than raw fingerprints to reduce the risk of data theft or leakage of personal information captured by biometric sensing.

## 3. OVERVIEW OF DOUBLE RANDOM PHASE ENCODING

The double random phase encryption (DRPE) [20] is the most studied among all optical encryption techniques [17-18] because of its easy implementation using 4f optical set up shown in Fig.1. In a DRPE system, the original image can be converted into a complex stationary white noise using two statistically independent random phase masks placed in the spatial and Fourier domains respectively. It is critically important to discuss the numerical simulation of encryption and decryption processes in the classic DRPE architecture.

### 3.1 Encryption process

To obtain the encrypted image  $\psi(x, y)$  in DRPE [33], the input image  $f(x, y)$  is first multiplied by the first random phase mask in the spatial domain  $PRM1 = \exp\{jn(x, y)\}$ . Where  $(x, y)$  denotes the spatial coordinates.

$$f_m(x, y) = f(x, y) \cdot \exp\{jn(x, y)\} \quad (1)$$

Afterwards, the phase modulated image  $f_m(x, y)$  is Fourier transformed  $F_m(u, v) = FT[f_m(x, y)]$  and then multiplied by the second phase mask in the frequency domain  $PRM2 = \exp\{jE(u, v)\}$  used as an encryption key. Finally, this complex amplitude image  $F_m(u, v) \cdot \exp\{jE(u, v)\}$  is inverse Fourier transformed and the encrypted image is obtained at the spatial domain.

$$\psi(x, y) = IFT[F_m(u, v) \cdot \exp\{jE(u, v)\}] \quad (2)$$

$(u, v)$  denotes the frequency coordinates.  $FT[\ ]$  and  $IFT[\ ]$  denote the Fourier transform and the inverse Fourier transform operators.

### 3.2 Decryption process

For a decryption, the encrypted image  $\psi(x, y)$  is Fourier transformed and then multiplied by the decryption key  $PRM2 = \exp\{jD(u, v)\}$

$$\begin{aligned} F_d(u, v) &= FT[\psi(x, y)] \cdot \exp\{jD(u, v)\} \\ &= F_m(u, v) \cdot \exp\{j[E(u, v) + D(u, v)]\} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Finally, the complex amplitude image  $F_d(u, v)$  is inverse Fourier transformed to produce the decrypted complex image  $f_d(x, y)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_d(x, y) &= \text{IFT}[F_m(u, v) \cdot \exp\{j\{E(u, v) + D(u, v)\}\}] \quad (4) \\
 &= \text{IFT}[F_m(u, v) \cdot N(u, v)] \\
 &= |f(x, y) * n(x, y)|
 \end{aligned}$$

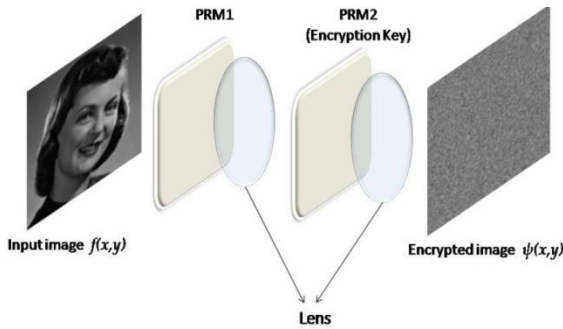


Fig.1: The optical system of DRPE.

Where

$$N(u, v) = \exp\{j\{E(u, v) + D(u, v)\}\} \quad (5)$$

$$n(x, y) = \text{IFT}[N(u, v)]$$

Where  $n(x, y)$  denotes the phase only correlation (POC) between encryption and decryption keys. It is well known that the POC between similar keys, becomes a Dirac delta function  $\delta(x, y)$ , and the decrypted image  $f_d(x, y)$  can be expressed as the correct complex image  $f_m(x, y)$ , which has the same intensity pattern as the input image  $f(x, y)$ . But when the decryption key is significantly different from the encryption key,  $n(x, y)$  exhibits a random noise distribution, and the decrypted image becomes a random noise image.

DRPE can be implemented optically or numerically and has a number of different architectures, including several based on Fourier transform [28], Fresnel transform [30,32], fractional Fourier transform [25], as well as several architectures [34,43].

#### 4. PROPOSED SCHEME

We proposed method, employing DRPE to securely authenticate individuals without exposing their sensitive biometric data to potential adversaries. It can not only protect

image-based biometric templates but also can provide a reliable means for securing cryptographic keys.

As illustrated in Fig.2, the proposed method first encodes a randomly generated key as a 2D binary image. Second, the phase components of two images captured from two different biometric modalities; namely, palmprint and fingerprint are convolved to produce a multi-biometric image of the same size as the binary image-encoded key. Finally, image-encoded key is encrypted using DRPE employing the multi-biometric image as a cipher key. During authentication, the encoded key is correctly recovered only if genuine biometric images are presented to the system; otherwise, the authentication process fails. Figs.3 and 4 shows the procedures of encryption and decryption in the proposed method.

#### 4.1 Image-encoded cryptographic key

To secure a multi-biometric image employed as a cipher key in DRPE, a randomly generated key must be encoded as 2D binary image and used as a plain image for encryption. Black and white squares are used to represent binary data sequence, in which black squares represent '0' bits and white squares represent '1' bits. Finally the squares are laid out as a quadrate to obtain 2D binary image as shown in Fig.5.

#### 4.2 Encryption process

Let  $C(x, y)$  denotes the image-encoded cryptographic key where  $(x, y)$  denotes the spatial domain coordinates.  $F_E(x, y)$  and  $P_E(x, y)$  denote the fingerprint and palmprint images, captured during enrollment.

The amplitude of  $C(x, y)$  is first multiplied by the first random phase mask generated from a random pattern  $R(x, y)$  to obtain a complex amplitude image  $C_a(x, y)$ .

$$C_a(x, y) = C(x, y) \exp\{jR(x, y)\} \quad (6)$$

Afterwards,  $C_a(x, y)$ , is transformed into the frequency domain using the 2D-DFT and the resulting coefficients matrix,  $C_a(u, v)$ , is multiplied by the second phase mask  $\exp\{jK_E(u, v)\}$  that represents the phase components of 2D DFT of the multi-biometric image  $P_E(x, y)$  and  $F_E(x, y)$ .

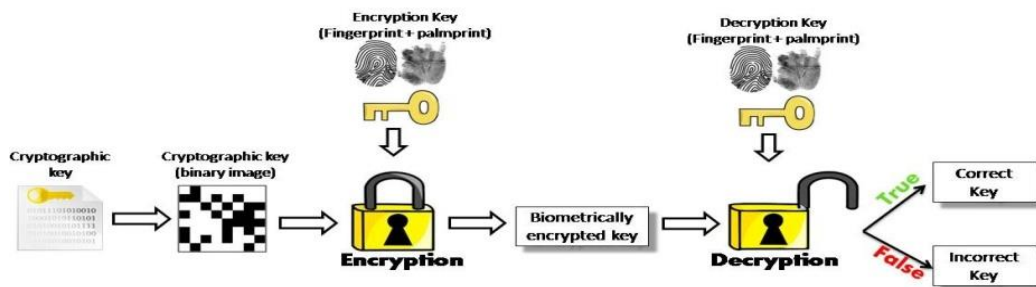


Fig.2: The Proposed Scheme.

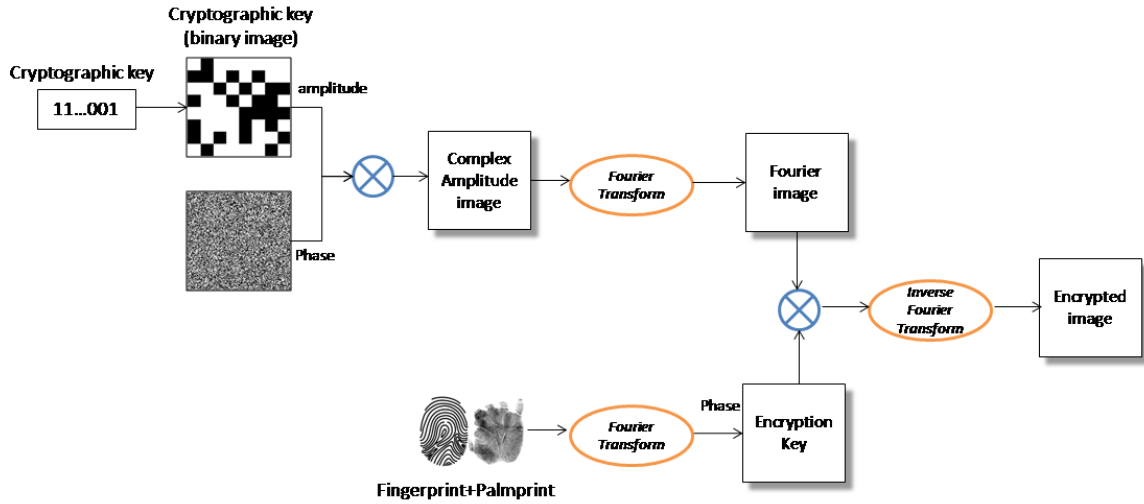


Fig.3: Encryption Process of the proposed encryption scheme using DRPE.

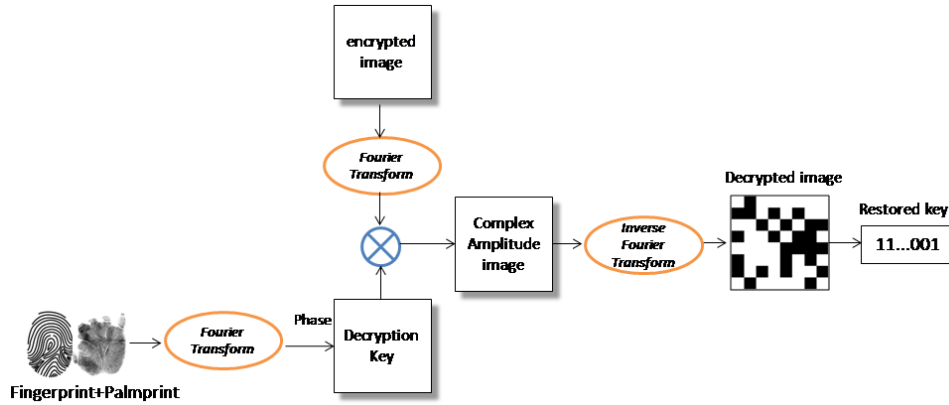


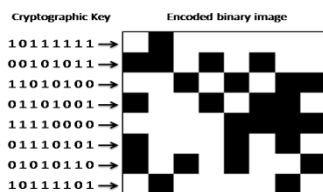
Fig.4: Decryption Process of the proposed encryption scheme using DRPE.

Fig.5: binary image encoded-key.

$$P_E(u, v) = FT[P_E(x, y)] = A_{PE}(u, v) \exp[jPh_{PE}(u, v)] \quad (7)$$

$$K_E(u, v) = Ph_{PE}(u, v) + Ph_{FE}(u, v) \quad (9)$$

Where  $A_{PE}(u, v)$  and  $A_{FE}(u, v)$  are the amplitude components,  $Ph_{PE}(u, v)$  and  $Ph_{FE}(u, v)$  are the phase components of the 2D-DFT of palmprint and fingerprint images, and  $(u, v)$  denotes the frequency domain coordinates.



Finally,  $E(u, v) = FT[E(x, y)]$   $E(u, v)$  is obtained as a complex random image expressed as follows  $A_{PE}(u, v) \exp[jPh_{FE}(u, v)] \quad (8)$

$$E(u, v) = C_a(u, v) \exp[jK_E(u, v)] \quad (10)$$

### 4.3 Decryption process

Let  $F_D(x, y)$  and  $P_D(x, y)$  denote the fingerprint and palmprint images, captured during authentication. For a decryption, the complex conjugate of encrypted image is carried out,

$$E^*(u, v) = C_a^*(u, v) \exp[-jK_E(u, v)] \quad (11)$$

Followed by multiplication with decryption Key,  $\exp[jK_D(u, v)]$ , that represents the phase components of 2D DFT of fresh multi-biometric image  $P_D(x, y)$  and  $F_D(x, y)$ .

$$K_D(u, v) = Ph_{PD}(u, v) + Ph_{FD}(u, v) \quad (12)$$

$$E^*(u, v)\exp[jK_D(u, v)] = \tag{13}$$

$$C_a^*(u, v)\exp[j(-K_E(u, v) + K_D(u, v))]$$

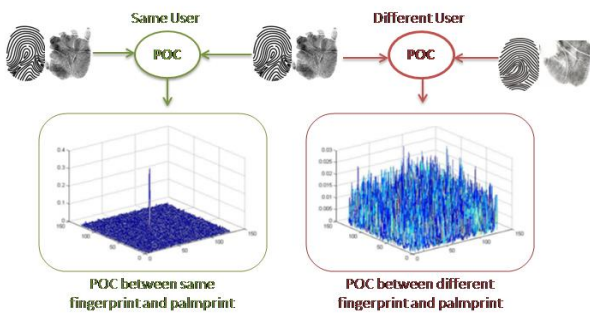
Lastly, Fourier transform operation releases the decryption image.

$$\begin{aligned} C_r(x_d, y_d) &= FT\{C_a^*(u, v)\exp[j(-K_E(u, v) + K_D(u, v))]\} \\ &= C_a^*(x_d, y_d) * n(x_d, y_d) \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

Where \* represents the convolution and  $n(x_d, y_d) = FT\{\exp[j(-K_E(u, v) + K_D(u, v))]\}$  represents the phase only correlation (POC) between enrollment and authentication fingerprint and palmprint images [36-37].  $n(x_d, y_d)$  satisfies the following relation

$$n(x_d, y_d) \approx \begin{cases} \delta(x_d - \alpha, y_d - \beta) & \text{genuine individual} \\ \text{random sequence} & \text{imposter individ} \end{cases} \tag{15}$$

$\delta()$  denotes the Dirac delta function and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  represent the shift between encryption and decryption keys. As illustrated in Fig.6, when enrollment and authentication multi-biometric images are belonging to the same user, POC is sufficiently high for correct decryption. And therefore the restored image  $C_r(x_d, y_d)$  is expressed as  $C_a^*(x - \alpha, y - \beta)$  with the same intensity pattern as of  $C(x, y)$ . On the other hand, when multi-biometric images are from different individuals, POC represents random noise distribution and  $C_r(x_d, y_d)$  produces a random noise image, which is the convolution of  $C_r(x_d, y_d)$  and a random sequence.



**Fig.6: POC between enrollment and authentication multi-biometric images from same and different users.**

## 5. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

In this section, we describe a set of experiments that have been implemented using Matlab platform in order to simulate and evaluate the verification accuracy of our proposed encoding method and to confirm the randomness in case of an impostor decryption.

### 5.1 Template generation

In order to generate multi-biometric templates used as cipher keys in DRPE; two types of a training datasets are used. Dataset 1 contains 8 experimental subjects; each subject contributes with 6 images of each fingerprints and palmprints. Fingerprint images are from [38,40,42] to compare the performance with the only existing fingerprint verification systems based on DRPE and CASIA palmprint images [46]. Each fingerprint image with a size of 256x256 pixels in 8 bit grayscale bmp files while palmprint image resolution is 128x128.

Dataset 2 contains 21 experimental subjects; each subject contributes with 10 images of each fingerprints and palmprints. Fingerprint images [39] collected in this dataset are with some shift changes but in the encryption process the shift of the fingerprint images are adjusted.

For each experimental subject, one fingerprint and palmprint images are used in enrollment (encryption) and others in authentication (decryption).

### 5.2 Robustness of encryption and decryption

Examples of resultant images in encryption are shown in Fig.7. Fig.7 (a) shows the binary image encoded-key to be encrypted. Figs.7 (b) and (c) show palmprint and fingerprint images used to generate a multi-biometric image. Fig.7 (d) shows the encrypted random image using multi-biometric image as a cipher key.

As shown in Fig.8, when same individual's palmprint and fingerprint images used for decryption Figs.8 (a) and (b), the encrypted image is successfully decrypted Fig.8 (c), and the encoded-key image is correctly restored Fig.8 (d) to reconstruct the cryptographic key. But when different individual's palmprint and fingerprint images used Figs.8 (e) and (f), the encrypted image randomly restored Fig.8 (g), and therefore the encoded-key image is randomly reconstructed Fig.8 (h).

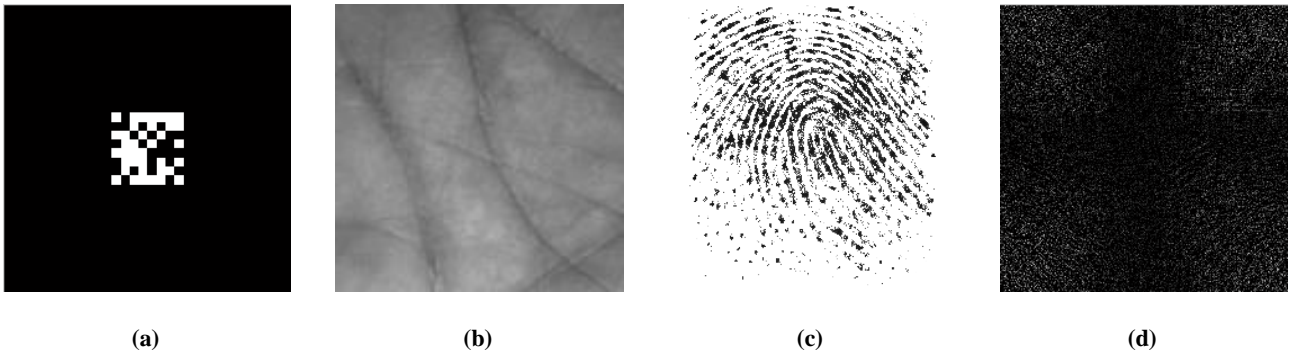
As a result, the encoded-key image is correctly recovered only if genuine biometric images are presented to the system; otherwise, the encoded-key image becomes a random image.

### 5.3 Verification accuracy

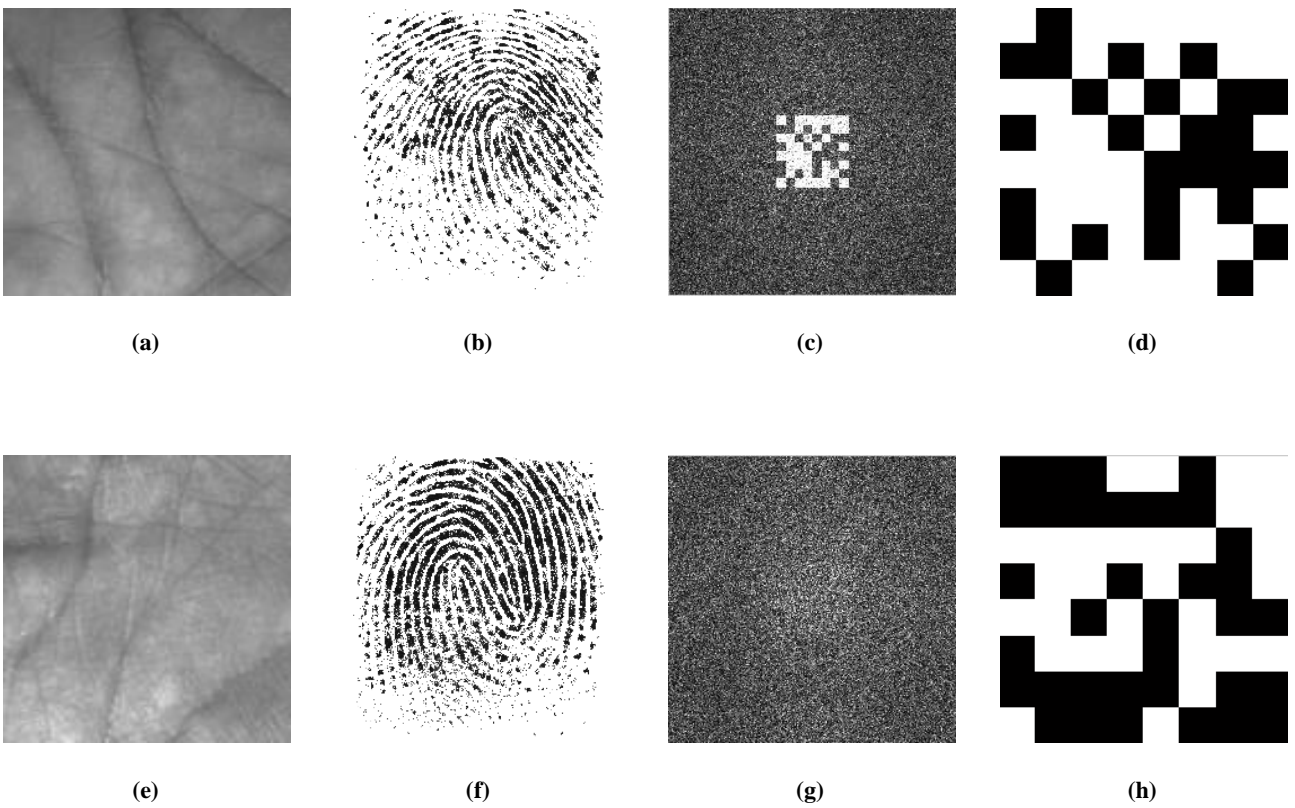
In order to evaluate the performance of the proposed scheme as biometric template protection method for securing image templates in multi-biometric systems besides securing cryptographic keys, we calculated false reject rate (FRR), false accept rate (FAR) and Bit error rate (BER) as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} EER &= \frac{N_{\text{error}}}{N_S}, \\ FAR &= \frac{N_{FA}}{N_T}, \quad FRR = \frac{N_{FR}}{N_T} \end{aligned}$$





**Fig.7: resultant images of encryption process. (a) Binary encoded-key image of cryptographic key, (b and c) palmprint and fingerprint images used for encryption, (d) the encrypted random image.**



**Fig.8: resultant images of decryption process in case of genuine and impostor individuals. (a and b) same individual's palmprint and fingerprint images, (c) the successfully decrypted image, (d) the subtracted binary image from decrypted image to decode cryptographic key. (e and f) different individual's palmprint and fingerprint images, (g) the randomly decrypted image, (d) the subtracted binary image.**

Where  $N_S$  is the bit number of cryptographic key (in case, 64 bits);  $N_{error}$  is the average number of error bits of decoded key.  $N_{FA}$  is the number of falsely accepted trails;  $N_{FR}$  is the number of falsely rejected trails and  $N_T$  is the total number of trails in experiments.

### 5.3.1 Securing multi-biometric images

As illustrated in Table 1 and 2, we have calculated FRR and FAR to investigate the proposed scheme's performance to secure a multi-biometric image, compared to performance when securing only fingerprint or palmprint images. We can

observe that FRR of securing multi-biometric images is slightly increased but still comparable with the good FRR when only securing palmprints. Despite, it can be acceptable as it increases reliability and heightens levels of security by using multi-biometric systems. Also, comparisons with the only existing fingerprint verification systems are conducted [38, 42] as shown in Table 1 and 2. And therefore the proposed method proved its efficiency in improving FRR by employing multi-biometric images as a cipher key. Fig.9 shows the ROC curves of the proposed method when

employing multi-biometric and uni-biometric images as a cipher keys.

**5.3.2 Securing cryptographic keys**

When employing proposed system to secure cryptographic keys, we have investigated the performance calculating BER in case of genuine and imposter individuals. BER of the proposed method is significantly improved in case of a genuine decryption but slightly decreased for an imposter decryption as compared to employing uni-biometric keys and the existing fingerprint verification systems []. Though this imposter BER is not so good accuracy compared by other methods, we think that the accuracy may be better by improvements of the method. Despite, it can be acceptable as the system correctly releases the key in case of a genuine decryption as illustrated in Table 3 and 4 and maintain security as strong as possible.

**6. CONCLUSION**

This paper introduces a biometric template protection method to secure biometric images in multimodal systems using DRPE. The proposed method can not only protect biometric templates but also can provide a reliable means for securing cryptographic keys. Through the experimental results we confirmed that the verification accuracy of the proposed encoding method under genuine and imposter decryption was found to be effectively comparable with using uni-biometric images and with the existing fingerprint verification method that also based on principles of DRPE by effectively improving the FRR and heightened levels of security by using multi-biometric images. On the other hand, BER for imposter decryption might not be sufficient and need to be improved further but it can be acceptable as it maintains security more stronger than using uni-biometric images as in [38-45].

**Table.1: results of verification accuracy of experimental dataset 1.**

<b>Dataset.1</b>	<b>FRR% at FAR=0</b>	<b>BER Genuine%</b>	<b>BER Impostor %</b>
<b>Proposed system( multi-biometric image)</b>	1.88	0.39	43.16
<b>Proposed system(Fingerprint only image)</b>	5.31	6.25	62.50
<b>Proposed system(Palmprint only image)</b>	0.63	1.56	61.33
<b>PIN verification using fingerprint keys[38]</b>	11.9	0.357	49.0
<b>Modified PIN verification using fingerprint keys[42]</b>	5.71	0.584	49.2

**Table.2: results of verification accuracy of experimental dataset 2.**

<b>Dataset.2</b>	<b>FRR% at FAR=0</b>	<b>BER Genuine%</b>	<b>BER Impostor %</b>
<b>Proposed system(multi-biometric image)</b>	2.29	2.08	45.83
<b>Proposed system(Fingerprint only image)</b>	3.65	13.45	66.15
<b>Proposed system(Palmprint only image)</b>	1.44	4.17	64.36
<b>Shift invariant PIN verification using fingerprint keys [39]</b>	29	3.2	51.0
<b>Shift and rotation invariant PIN verification using fingerprint keys [45]</b>	8.57		40.8

**Table.3: Bit error rate for experimental subjects in dataset 1, in case of genuine individuals for decryption.**

<b>BER<sub>Genuine</sub> %</b>	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>	<b>P7</b>	<b>P8</b>
<b>Proposed system</b>	0	0	1.56	1.56	0	0	0	0
<b>Fingerprint only</b>	1.56	0	9.38	7.81	1.56	3.13	23.44	1.56
<b>Palmprint only</b>	0	0	3.13	0	4.69	0	1.56	0
<b>PIN verification using fingerprint [38]</b>	0	0.781	1.17	0	0	0	1.04	0

**Table.4: Bit error rate for experimental subjects in dataset 1, in case of imposter individuals for decryption.**

<b>BER<sub>Impostor</sub> %</b>	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>	<b>P7</b>	<b>P8</b>
<b>Proposed system</b>	45.31	45.31	46.88	50.00	37.50	40.63	43.75	39.16
<b>Fingerprint only</b>	59.38	60.94	59.38	64.06	67.19	62.50	65.63	62.50
<b>Palmprint only</b>	59.38	64.06	57.81	62.50	60.94	65.63	60.94	61.33
<b>PIN verification using fingerprint[38]</b>	49.0	49.6	47.4	49.2	49.6	48.8	49.4	49.2

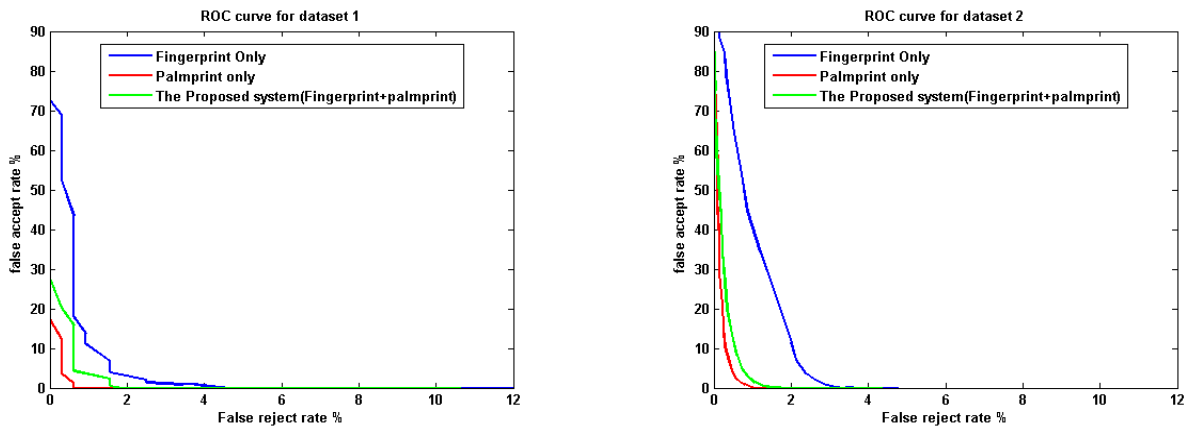


Fig.9: ROC curves for verification accuracy of dataset 1 and 2.

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