**1. AES Encryption**

* **Daemen, Joan, and Vincent Rijmen.** *The Design of Rijndael: AES - The Advanced Encryption Standard*. Springer, 2002.  
  🔗 DOI: 10.1007/978-3-662-04722-4
* **NIST.** *Specification for the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES)*.  
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**2. Steganography (LSB Technique)**

* **Johnson, N. F., & Katzenbeisser, S.** (2000). *A survey of steganographic techniques*. In *Information hiding* (pp. 43–78). Springer.
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**3. Combined Steganography & Cryptography**

* **Kaur, Rupinder, and Supriya Kinger.** *Enhanced Security in Image Steganography Using AES and LSB Technique*.  
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* **Patil, P., & Shinde, P. (2017).** *Secure Data Transmission Using AES and Image Steganography*.  
  In *Procedia Computer Science*, 122, 233–239.  
  [ScienceDirect Link](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1877050917326622)

**4. Python Libraries Documentation**

* **PyCryptodome** – AES encryption library  
  🔗 <https://pycryptodome.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>
* **Pillow (PIL)** – Python Imaging Library  
  🔗 <https://pillow.readthedocs.io/en/stable/>

**✅ Example Citation (IEEE Style)**

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