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# **CAPSTONE PROJECT**

## **SECURE DATA HIDING IN IMAGE USING STEGNOGRAPHY**

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# OUTLINE

- Problem Statement
- Technology used
- Wow factor
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- Conclusion
- Git-hub Link

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# PROBLEM STATEMENT

**Existing Issue :** Traditional steganography lacks robust encryption, exposing hidden data to extraction using “steg analysis”.

**Solution :** Embed messages in images using XOR encryption and least Significant Bit (LSB) steganography to ensure confidentiality even if the data is found by Steg analysis.

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# TECHNOLOGY USED

**Libraries:** OpenCV ( image processing ), struct (binary data handling), OS (system Operations).

**Platform :** Python 3.x.

**IDE :** VS code

# WOW FACTORS

## Unique features:

- a) Dual Security : combines XOR encryption + LSB steganography
- b) Dynamic Key Handling
- c) Error Handling : checks image size to prevent overflow

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## END USERS

**Target Audience** : Cybersecurity professionals, journalists ,corporations having sensitive data.

**Use Case** : Securely share credentials or confidential notes via social media images .

# RESULTS

```
51 def reveal_message(image_path):
52     col += 1
53     channel = (channel + 1) % 3
54
55     data_length = struct.unpack('!I', bytes(length_bytes))[0]
56
57     # Read encrypted data
58     encrypted_data = []
59     for _ in range(data_length):
60         if row >= img_row or col >= img_col:
61             print("Error: Data corrupted")
62             return
63         encrypted_data.append(img[row, col, channel])
64         row += 1
65         col += 1
66         channel = (channel + 1) % 3
67
68     # Decrypt message
69     secret_key = input("Enter decryption key: ")
70     decrypted = []
71     key_len = len(secret_key)
72     for i, byte in enumerate(encrypted_data):
73         key_char = secret_key[i % key_len]
74         decrypted.append(chr(byte ^ ord(key_char)))
75
76     print("Hidden message:", ''.join(decrypted))
77
78 # Main program
79 choice = input("Hide(h) or reveal(r) message? (h/r): ").lower()
80 if choice == 'h':
81     img_path = input("Enter cover image path: ")
82     msg = input("Enter secret message: ")
83     key = input("Create encryption key: ")
84     hide_message(img_path, msg, key)
85 elif choice == 'r':
86     img_path = input("Enter secret image path: ")
```

```
project.py > Q reveal_message
1 import cv2
2 import os
3 import struct
4
5 def hide_message(image_path, message, secret_key):
6     img = cv2.imread(image_path)
7     if img is None:
8         print("Error: Couldn't load image")
9         return
10
11     # Encrypt message using XOR with secret key
12     encrypted_data = []
13     key_len = len(secret_key)
14     for i, char in enumerate(message): #Each char represents one character from the secret message
15         key_char = secret_key[i % key_len] #if key is shorter then message then it makes it loop from start again of the key
16         encrypted_data.append(ord(char) ^ ord(key_char)) #ord(char): converts the message character to its ASCII value.
17                                     #ord(key_char): Converts the corresponding key character to its ASCII value.
18
19     # Add message length header
20     data_length = len(encrypted_data)
21     length_header = struct.pack('!I', data_length)
22
23     # Embed data in image
24     row, col, channel = 0, 0, 0
25     img_row, img_col, _ = img.shape
26
27     # Store length header , The first few pixels store the message length
28     for byte in length_header:
29         if row >= img_row or col >= img_col:
30             print("Error: Image too small")
31             return
32         img[row, col, channel] = byte
33         row += 1
34         col += 1
35         channel = (channel + 1) % 3
36
37     # Store encrypted message
38     for byte in encrypted_data:
39         if row >= img_row or col >= img_col:
40             print("Error: Image too small")
41             return
42         img[row, col, channel] = byte
```

secret\_image.png



PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS

```
PS C:\Users\mudas\OneDrive\Desktop\project> python -u "c:\Users\mudas\OneDrive\Desktop\project\project.py"
Hide(h) or reveal(r) message? (h/r): h
Enter cover image path: pic.jpg
Enter secret message: hi my name is mudasir
Create encryption key: hide
Message hidden in secret_image.png
```

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# CONCLUSION

## Summary :

Successfully hides encrypted messages in images using lightweight, secure methods.

Addresses the gap in traditional steganography tools.



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## GITHUB LINK

[https://github.com/Mady520/Stego\\_project.git](https://github.com/Mady520/Stego_project.git)

# FUTURE SCOPE

- Add support for AES encryption for stronger security .  
Develop a GUI for easier use.  
Extend functionality to hide messages in audio and video files



**THANK YOU**