

AN EFFICIENT DATA ENCRYPTION MECHANISM BY USING OPTIMAL LSB TECHNIQUE

Sk.Thameem Ansari¹,K.Chaitanya²,N.BalaKrishna³,Dr.S.Siva Nageswara Rao⁴

^{1,2,3}Student,Department of CSE,Narasaraopeta Engineering College,Narasaraopeta,Guntur(D.T)A.P,India.

⁴Professor,Department of CSE,Narasaraopeta Engineering College,Narasaraopeta,Guntur(D.T)A.P,India
a shaikthamu2001@gmail.com¹,kandregulachaitanya777@gmail.com²,
nsaivenkatabalakrishna@gmail.com, drssnr@rediffmail.com⁴.

ABSTARCT:

Steganography technique is used to hide data in an original medium without any visible alterations, making it undetectable to unauthorized parties.

One of the most popular steganography techniques is the Least Significant Bit (LSB), which involves substituting certain parts of the cover photo with hidden information. However, the current approach of LSB substitution suffers from a decrease in steganographic image quality as the steganographic image capacity increases. To overcome this limitation, a proposed approach aims to increase the capacity while maintaining outstanding visual quality.

KEYWORDS: Related words include **LSB, steganography, information concealment, image manipulation, and information security.**

1.INTRODUCTION

Data transfer is now quicker and easier because to the modern communications technology's quick development. Unfortunately, this made it simpler for unauthorised users to intercept communications and gain illegal access to the transmitted material by copying, altering, or destroying it. Hence, maintaining the privacy of data while it is in use or being transmitted is a crucial concern. The two main methods used in information security to ensure data confidentiality are data encryption and data

concealing. Data is transformed through encryption such that only those with the key to decrypt the encryption can see the meaningless cypher text that results. Techniques for data hiding involve invisibly concealing sensitive data inside a carrier. The current effort focuses on steganography, which uses graphics as a cover to conceal sensitive information. Steganography makes it impossible for anyone to even realise that the cover picture includes secret data by concealing it inside.

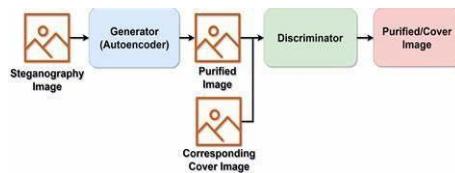


Fig 1(a) Architecture of Image Steganography

2.LITERATURE SURVEY

By S. A. Mirjalili and S. S. M. Ghahfarokhi, "A New LSB-Based Picture Steganography Method with Optimum Embedding Capacity and High Security": An innovative LSBbased steganography method that maximises security and embedding capability is presented in this research. The suggested technique employs a genetic algorithm to identify the best places to embed messages in the image.

M. H. Bhuyan and R. J. Jena's "An Improved LSB Algorithm for Data Hiding in Audio Signals": The LSB technique for data hiding in audio signals is enhanced in this study. The

authors assert that their approach outperforms the traditional LSB technique in terms of embedding capacity, security, and robustness.

T. Manikandan and K. Baskaran's "An Improved LSB Steganography Algorithm for Picture Data Hiding" The LSB technique is improved in this study by generating a random sequence of pixels for message embedding using a secret key. The authors assert that their approach outperforms the traditional LSB technique in terms of security and embedding capacity

3.PROPOSED SYSTEM

3.1 The Ideal LSBs Mechanism:

To increase how well the stego picture is produced, numerous enhancement strategies based on LSBs method are suggested [17–19]. This section explains the optimum LSBs technique [20], one of the improved methods. It employs the best pixel correction method to enhance the stego image quality (OPAP). The embedding algorithm's steps are as follows:

- Assume that Gi is the value of the i th pixel in the cover picture, and ' n ' is the number of the secret data bit(s) to be inserted. • To obtain the stego pixel Gi , use the LSBs approach to embed t bit(s) into Gi .
- Gi 's $(n + 1)$ th bit has to be changed to provide the two extra pixel values G and $G+$, which can be roughly expressed as $G = Gi + 2n G$, $G + (1)$, and $G = Gi + 2n$.

Gi , $G+$, and G all contain the same embedded data since they all share the same final n bits.

- Use following formula to determine the Gi (optimal candidate) value that is closest to the original pixel value:(2), if $Gi < G+$ • At last,

switch all of the best candidates' pixel values to their original values.

Let's say three secret data bits are 111, Gi is 10, and n is 3. Then, with the

straightforward 3-LSBs procedure, the stego pixel $Gi = 15$ is generated. Changing the Gi 's fourth bit will result in values of the two pixels. $G+ = 23$ and $G = 7$ are the values that are most similar to the pixels' original value. $Gi=15$, $G+=23$, and G is 7, all of which have the same last three bits, making 7 the best possibility for Gi .

3.1.1 The proposed method:

This section will discuss the suggested approach. As previously indicated, this approach relies on some arithmetic operations including LSB inversion. Instead of swapping out the Cover pixels' LSBs with hidden bits, their values are reversed. This improves the stego image's quality. To identify which bits are inverted, a flag is therefore needed [8, 11]. Hence, the maximum size for each quotient is 3 bits or 2 bits, respectively, with 3 bits [8] being the maximum amount for the remainder. The cover image has been divided into two equally sized pieces. The second portion is used to incorporate leftover data by flipping pixel LSBs.

Suppose I is any grayscale image and has the following pixel values: Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_N . Each pixel contains 8 bits:

$$Q_i = a_1, \dots, a_8, |Q_i| = 8 \text{ bits, and } a_j = 1, 0 \text{ for } a_j.$$

(3) $O = G V$ is used to calculate the image size.

(4) where G and V stand for the height and breadth of the picture, respectively. Assume that $N = n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m$, where $n_i \in \{1, 0\}$; and m represent the length and secret data bits, respectively. (5) And the greatest hiding capacity in the image I is g , which is expressed in terms of bits as $1 g (N/8)$.

3.2 Implementation:

3.2.1 The Embedding Algorithm:

Image steganography embedding algorithms are used to hide secret data

within an image while maintaining the original image's visual quality.

Here's an overview of how the LSB algorithm works:

- 1.Convert the secret data into binary form.
- 2.Divide the cover image into small blocks of pixels.
- 3.Select the first pixel in the first block.
- 4.Modify the least significant bit of the pixel's color value to match the first secret data bit.
- 5.Move on to the next pixel in the block and modify its least significant bit to match the next secret data bit.
- 6.Repeat steps 4 and 5 for all pixels in the block.
- 7.Move on to the next block of pixels and repeat steps 3-6 until all secret data bits have been embedded.
- 8.Save the modified image.

3.2.2 The Extracting Algorithm:

The image steganography extracting algorithm is used to retrieve the hidden secret data from the steganographic image that was embedded using a steganography embedding algorithm.

Here's an overview of how the image steganography extracting algorithm works:

- 1.Load the steganographic image that contains the hidden secret data.
- 2.Divide the steganographic image into small blocks of pixels.
- 3.Select the first pixel in the first block.
- 4.Extract the least significant bit of the pixel's color value.

5.Move on to the next pixel in the block and extract its least significant bit.

6.Repeat steps 4 and 5 for all pixels in the block.

7.Reconstruct the secret data by combining the extracted least significant bits.

8.Move on to the next block of pixels and repeat steps 3-7 until all secret data bits have been extracted.

9.Save the extracted secret data.

3.2.3 Experimental Analysis:

Consider the next simple example to help further explain the suggested strategy: Suppose that the original pixel counts for the first and second halves of the cover image are 200 and 170, respectively. The secret data has values of [250, 123, 125], where 250 is the highest number and 123 is the lowest value

Cover images	$R \leq 127$		$R > 127$	
	Capacity	PSNR	Capacity	PSNR
Lena	1048568	38.5945	1048568	36.8362
Baboon	1048568	38.5857	1048568	36.8239
Peppers	1048568	38.6004	1048568	36.8434
Cameraman	1048568	38.6081	1048568	36.9462
Barbara	1048568	38.6180	1048568	36.8712
Elaine	1048568	38.6015	1048568	36.8815
Tiffany	1048568	38.6187	1048568	36.6712

Fig 3.2.3.1 Experimental Results for images with size 512×512

R has a value of 127

- As 250 may be divided by 125 to yield 2, A, B, and C have values of 3 and 5, respectively.

The first and second LSBs of the original pixel in the first section are appended when $B = 3$.

Moreover, when $A = 3$, the third and fourth LSBs of this pixel are inverted. The first part's stego pixel will have a value of 197. this value following a

- second reversion of the second LSB and use of the best LSBs technique.
- If $C = 5$, the first and third LSBs of the original pixel should be inverted in the second component. • The value of C is 5, and the second component inverts the first and third LSBs of the original pixel.

- Upend the fourth LSB of this pixel to demonstrate that the second LSB is once more upended in the pixel in the first portion.
- The second segment's stego pixel will have a value of 167.

4.RESULT ANALYSIS:

Here the result is came from the comparision of LSB technique and optimal LSB technique. Optimal LSB algorithm is having high graph compared to simple LSB technique. The peak signal to noise ratio (PSNR), expressed in decibels, between two pictures is computed. The quality of the compressed image improves with increasing PSNR.

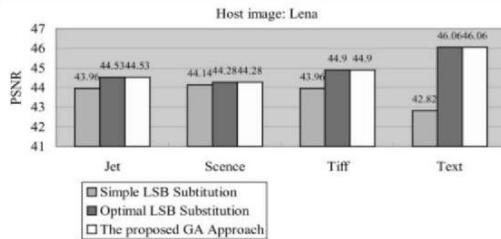


Fig 4(a)Comparison of Simple LSB and Optimal LSB

Fig 3.3.3.3 Experimental Results for images with size 225×225

5.OUTPUT SCREENS:

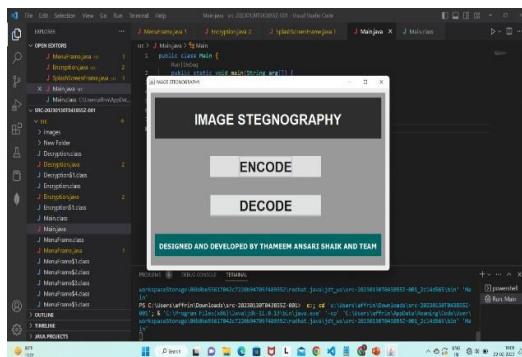


Fig 5(a) Output of Main Window

- Lastly, the first and second parts of the cover image's stego pixels are 197 and 167, respectively.

Cover images	$R \leq 127$		$R > 127$	
	Capacity	PSNR	Capacity	PSNR
Lena	100344	41.7013	100344	39.9630
Cameraman	100344	41.6624	100344	40.3138
Elaine	100344	41.6224	100344	39.9665

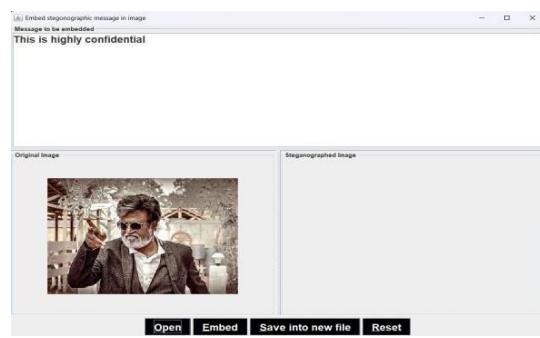


Fig 5(b) Select Target Image

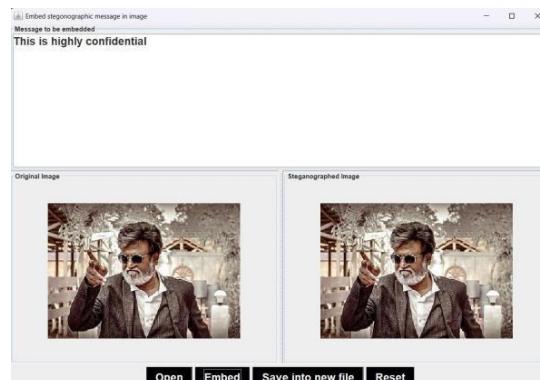


Fig 5(c) Embed Image

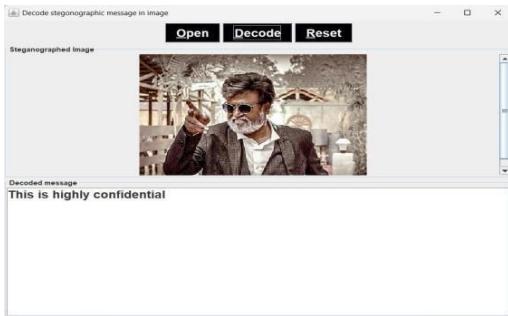


Fig 5(d) Final Decrypted Output

6.CONCLUSION:

The greatest method for protecting such data and information from illegal use and change is an encryption system that may conceal information and data in an image file. Because deciphering a leaked stego-image still requires a known method or the steganographic system. Additionally, it could be inferred that the claimed company's use of an image steganographic technology conceals the type of encryption that is actually being used. This has made it easier to avoid raising suspicions about the information file's or data's very existence. This study proposes an effective steganographic technique for inverting LSBs and performing mathematical operations. Whether In the first portion, depending on the difference between the greatest and lowest value of the secret data, we employ four or five LSBs of each pixel for embedding two equal sections make up the cover picture.

7.REFERENCES:

1. Cheddad, A., Condell, J., Curran, K., and Mc Kevitt, P.: Survey and study of current techniques for digital image steganography. 90(3), 727-752 Signal Process (2010)
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⁴Professor, Department of CSE, Narasaraopeta Engineering College, Narasaraopeta, Guntur(D.T) A.P, India

a.shaiikthamu2001@gmail.com¹,kandregulachaitanya777@gmail.com²,

nisaivenkatbalakrishna@gmail.com, drssnr@rediffmail.com⁴

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ABSTRACT:

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Steganography technique is used to hide data in an original medium without any visible alterations, making it undetectable to unauthorized parties. One of the most popular steganography techniques is the Least Significant Bit (LSB), which involves substituting certain parts of the cover photo with hidden information. However, the current approach of LSB substitution suffers from a decrease in steganographic image quality as the steganographic image capacity increases. To overcome this limitation, a proposed approach aims to increase the capacity while maintaining outstanding visual quality.

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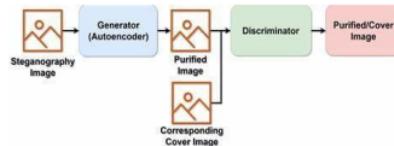


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- G_i 's $(n+1)$ th bit has to be changed to provide the two extra pixel values G and $G+$, which can be roughly expressed as $G = G_i + 2n|G$, $G+ = G_i + (1)$, and $G = G_i + 2n$.
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G_i , $G+$, and G all contain the same embedded data since they all share the same final n bits.

- Use following formula to determine the G_i (optimal candidate) value that is closest to the original pixel value:
$$(2), \text{ if } G_i < G+ \\ \bullet \text{ At last,}$$

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 - (5) And the greatest hiding capacity in the image I is g , which is expressed in terms of bits as $g = N \times 8$.

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The image steganography extracting algorithm is used to retrieve the hidden secret data from the steganographic image that was embedded using a steganography embedding algorithm.

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3.2.3 Experimental Analysis:

Consider the next simple example to help further explain the suggested strategy: Suppose that the original pixel counts for the first and second halves of the cover image are 200 and 170, respectively. The secret data has values of [250, 123, 125], where 250 is the highest number and 123 is the lowest value

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Elaine	1048568	38.6015	1048568	36.8815
Tiffany	1048568	38.6187	1048568	36.6732

Fig 3.2.3.1 Experimental Results for images with size 512 × 512

R has a value of 127

- As 250 may be divided by 125 to yield 2, A, B, and C have values of 3 and 5, respectively.

The first and second LSBs of the original pixel in the first section are appended when B = 3.

Moreover, when A = 3, the third and fourth LSBs of this pixel are inverted. The first part's stego pixel will have a value of 197. this value following a

2
second reversion of the second LSB and use of the best LSBs technique.

- If $C = 5$, the first and third LSBs of the original pixel should be inverted in the second component.
- The value of C is 5, and the second component inverts the first and third LSBs of the original pixel.
- Upend the fourth LSB of this pixel to demonstrate that the second LSB is once more upended in the pixel in the first portion.
- The second segment's stego pixel will have a value of 167.

Sp. ETS

- Lastly, the first and second parts of the cover image's stego pixels are 197 and 167, respectively.

Sp. ETS

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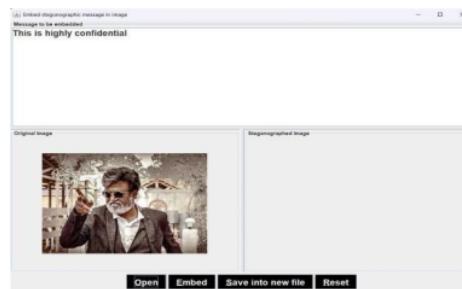


Fig 5(b) Select Target Image

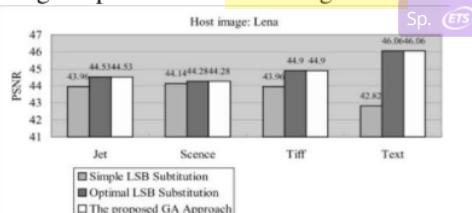


Fig 4(a)Comparison of Simple LSB and Optimal LSB

Fig 3.3.3.3 Experimental Results for images with size 225×225

5.OUTPUT SCREENS:

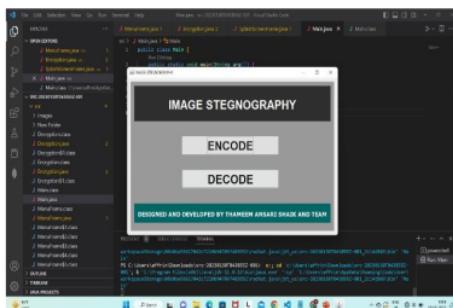


Fig 5(a) Output of Main Window

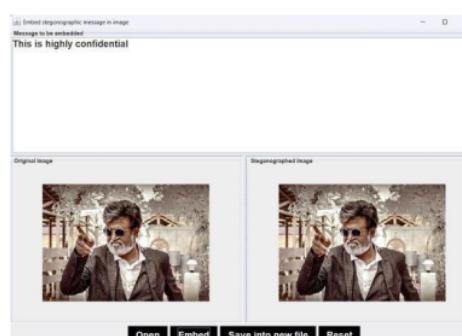


Fig 5(c) Embed Image

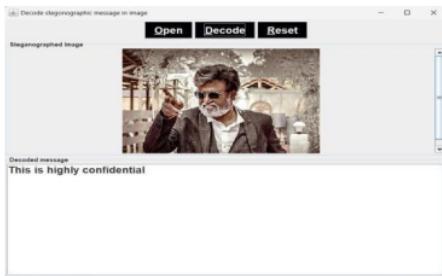


Fig 5(d) Final Decrypted Output

6.CONCLUSION:

The greatest method for protecting such data and information from illegal use and change is an encryption system that may conceal information and data in an image file. Because deciphering a leaked stego-image still requires a known method or the steganographic system. Additionally, it could be inferred that the claimed company's use of an image steganographic technology conceals the type of encryption that is actually being used. This has made it easier to avoid raising suspicions about the information file's or data's very existence. This study proposes an effective steganographic technique for inverting LSBs and performing mathematical operations. Whether In the first portion, depending on the difference between the greatest and lowest value of the secret data, we employ four or five LSBs of each pixel for embedding two equal sections make up the cover picture.

Gutub, Al-Qahtani, and Tabakh. Pages 400–403 are found in The 7th ACS/IEEE International Conference on Computer Systems and Applications. IEEE, Rabat (2009), May 10–13

3

3. A new image steganography based on first component alteration technique, by Armandpreet, K., Renu, D., and Geeta, S. *Int. J. Comp. Sci. Inf. Secur.* 6(3) (2009)

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4. Receiver compatible data hiding in colour image by Bhattacharyya, D., Roy, A., Roy, P., and Kim, T.-h. *Int. J. Adv. Sci. Technol.* 6(1), 15–24 (2009).

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7.REFERENCES:

1. Cheddad, A., Condell, J., Curran, K., and Mc Kevitt, P.: Survey and study of current techniques for digital image steganography. 90(3), 727-752 *Signal Process* (2010)
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