**EXTENDED STEGANOGRAPHY**

**ABSTRACT:**

One of the reasons that intruders can be successful is the most of the information they acquire from a system is in a form that they can read and comprehend. Intruders may decode it,reveal the information to others, modify it to misrepresent an individual or organization, or use it to launch an attack. One solution to this problem is, through the use of steganography. Steganography is the art and science of hiding the important messages, text, and confidential information in such a way that no one apart from the intended recipient knows the existence of the message; this is in contrast to cryptography, where the existence of the message itself is not disguised, but the content is obscured. The advantage of steganography over cryptography alone is that, no one would able to know the truth that the information is hidden inside the image. Steganography is done using Least Significant Bit (LSB) algorithm, Where the Least Significant Bit in the image pixels are used to store the text which we wanted to hide.

Extended Steganography is the project where the content of the text is first changed using cryptographic methods and then the encrypted text is made to hide inside an image. With the help of steganography, only the intended recipient would know the existence of the message in the image. With the help of cryptography, the data is converted to an obscured encrypted text. Here, in this project we are encrypting the data which is followed by the data hiding. So, even when an undesired person can recover the message from the image, the text is encrypted providing the double security. The project initially ask for the image and the text to be encoded and to hide. When encode button is clicked, the text is encrypted and then hidden inside the image and a new image is formed, not replacing the original one. The project is done using Java and the GUI required is done using Java Swings.

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