

An Implementation of Hiding Audio Secure Data in Images using Steganography

¹Neha Saroj, ²Somesh Kumar Dewangan

¹MTech Scholar, ²Asst. Professor

¹Software Engineering, ²Computer Science

¹GD-Rungta College of Engineering & Technology, Bhilai, India

²GD-Rungta College of Engineering & Technology, Bhilai, India

Abstract: Today's large demand for internet applications requires data to be transmitted in a safe and secure manner. Data transmission in public communication system insecure because of interception and improper manipulation by eavesdropper. So the solution for this problem is Steganography. It is very important to hide the data efficiently, as many attacks made on the data communication. In our project we hide the Audio secret data in image with multilevel protection using LSB techniques.

Keywords – LSB (least significant bit) , steganography , cryptographic, embedding audio, Multilevel protection

I. INTRODUCTION

Information hiding encompasses wide variety of the secret writing technologies that includes cryptography, steganography and watermarking. The term hiding implicates the process of making information invisible to inmates. Even though all these methods hide the message, each one differs in their own purpose and applications from one another. In cryptography, the legitimate recipient can decrypt and decode the secret message from the cipher [2]. Watermarking provide copyright protection and control by extending the cover source with some information. Steganography is an art of hiding information in a multimedia object such as image, audio and video objects. The main purpose of steganography is to draw the attention of illegal users form the Stego-file by selecting an innocuous cover media [2]. The name of the steganography method depends on the type of cover media object used for concealing secret data (such as image steganography, audio steganography and video steganography). Among these Audio steganography is more challenging compared to the image and video because human auditory system (HAS) identifies even minor changes in the audio signal compared to HVS. The human auditory system (HAS) detects sound signals ranging greater than 109:1 and frequencies ranging from 103:1.

In the past few years, many authors proposed different audio steganography approaches that hide the secret information by modifying the samples of the audio signal directly and indirectly in time domain and also transform domain by using various transformation techniques. This paper proposes novel audio steganography that extends the idea with increased security level and robustness to the secret audio data embeds in the digital image [20]. The proposed method encrypts the message prior to hiding. Audio Steganography becomes more powerful and efficient tool in combination with encryption methods which provides higher levels of security. The performance analysis of proposed audio steganography technique can be evaluated based on the objective and subjective measures.

These days, another test comprises to insert audio information in encoded pictures. Information is an arrangement of estimations of subjective or quantitative factors. Information is gathered, measured, announced and dissected, whereupon it might be imagined utilizing diagrams, pictures or different investigation apparatuses. Information is singular pieces of information. Data can exist in a collection of structures as numbers or substance on bits of paper, as bits and bytes set away in electronic memory, or as conviction set away eye to eye mind. It basically exists in two structures as:

Raw Data:

Data that has been gathered however not organized or broke down.

Structured Data:

It refers to the data organized in several manners. This includes data contained in relational database and spreadsheets.

An image is artifacts that depicts visual perception and are captured through optical devices such as camera, mirrors, lenses and telescope. Image is also basically a type of data used for the purpose of saving information and retrieving the same.

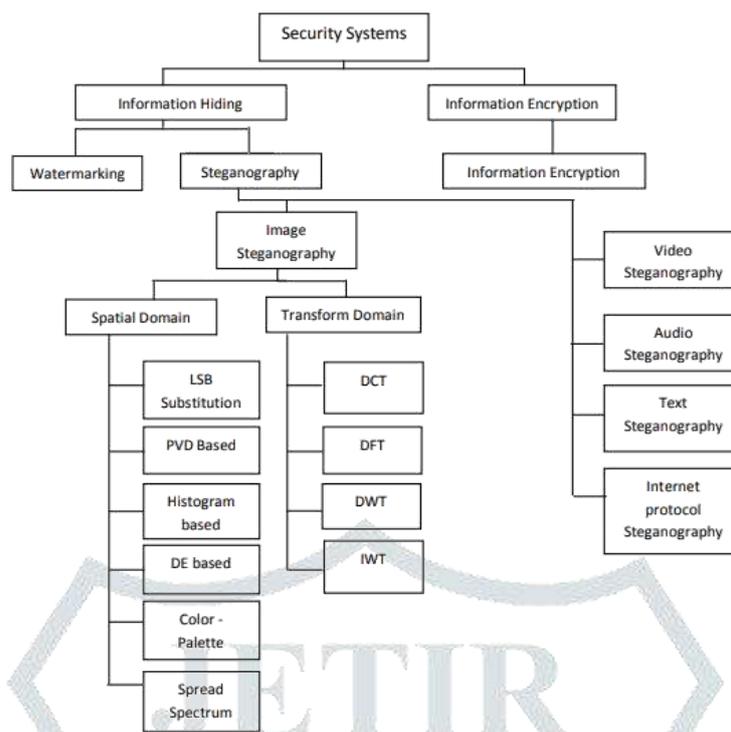


Figure 1: Different techniques of security system for data security

Objective

We presented a novel method to hide secret audio data into image cover data. We also work for other hiding techniques. We try to design a Matlab based GUI layout where can be hide audio data. We also work for image steganography, text data steganography. In audio steganography sound file is modified in a way they contain a hidden information. This modification done in such a way that secrete data must be secure and without destroying the original signal

II. PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

In LSB only the least significant bits are modified to hide the secret audio message, average no. of bits needed be changed. The difference b/w cover image and the Stego image are hardly noticeable. DCT transform technique works in frequency domain, it divides the image into two parts having their own importance. Whereas the high frequency components of the image are discarded due to compression attacks. DWT also works in frequency domain, consisting of two operations from left to right (horizontal direction) and from top to bottom (vertical direction). Pixels of image are scanned from left to right and top to bottom, addition and subtraction is performed with the neighboring pixels, the process repeats until the all the pixels has been processed. At the end, four sub-bands are obtained LL, LH, HL and HH. Whereas the image is embedded in the low frequency sub band because it looks identical to original image. Techniques that work in transform domain to hide data are complex for intruders. All these techniques are evaluated on the bases of PSNR, MSE, PC, Processing time, Robustness and Capacity. The PSNR value of LSB technique is high. Among these three techniques DCT works perfectly with least distortion in image as compared to LSB and DWT.

III. PROPOSED ALGORITHM

The new idea has been proposed for the security of secret information and parties as well. The main goal of this method is to develop an efficient security system for the protection of confidential audio data during the transformation process. The basic idea of this system is to analyze the audio, secure the secret audio file as well as the cover files with strong algorithm. The system consist of two main phases encryption and decryption various stages of encryption are; image acquisition, preprocessing, enhancement, read and convert audio file, applying AES also compression using DCT transform, Embedding audio in image using LSB technique, Stego image is retrieved.

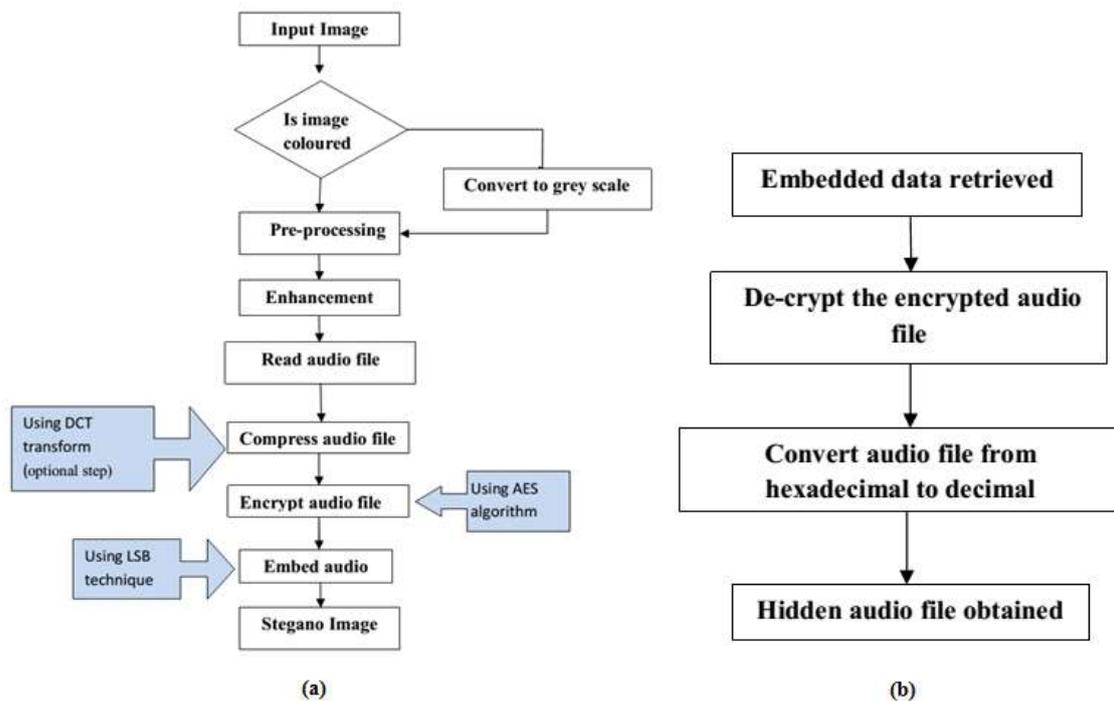


Figure 2 (a) Flow chart for encryption process (b) Flow chart for decryption process

A variety of techniques are used for hiding the data in images.

A. Reversible Data Hiding

Reversible information is characterized as an approach where the information is covered up in the host media that might be a cover picture. The reversibility implies inserting information as well as unique picture can be recouped. In reversible information concealing the first cover can be recuperated loss-lessly after the inserted messages are extricated. Reversible information stowing away can be considered as a type of steganography in which we shroud information inside pictures. This technique is effective in armed forces and medicinal fields. In general, a higher degree of distortion is achieved if there is a higher embedding capacity. For reversible data hiding certain requirements should be specific such as:

Marked image quality: The marked picture quality ought to be tremendous. It suggests resulting to inserting data in cover picture the adjustment in cover picture ought to be less.

So that exclusive expected beneficiary can perceive the correspondence.

Payload: Hidden bits in the picture.

Auxiliary information: Auxiliary information is a measure of information that is required to be sent at the extraction organize for perfect recuperation of picture and mystery message.

1) Least Significant Bit

A novel reversible information concealing system empowers the correct disclosure of the original picture subsequent to removing the inserted data. LSB (Least Significant Bit) adjustment is proposed as the information installing technique, which presents extra working focuses on the capacity-distortion(C-D) graph.

2) Histogram Shifting

In the fundamental histogram shifting data hiding, initially a zero point as well as highest point will be calculated.

Image Steganography utilizing cover medium as an image is called image steganography. Human eye can't identify unobtrusive changes in a picture. Any message in the form of text or an image can be stored as secret inside a cover image. Some bits of the pixels of a picture can be straightforwardly replaced or the picture can be converted.

IV. TEST AND IMPLANTATION

In this system we design a schematic GUI using a Matlab platform. It's performed and handle easily by user. User can be add their voice using record and store a .wav file. In this system we have MFCC; LPCC analysis system. Which is used for analysis accuracy of secret audio with extract secret audio. We use speech processing toolbox to voice recognition. We try to find MFCC and LPCC of each voice.

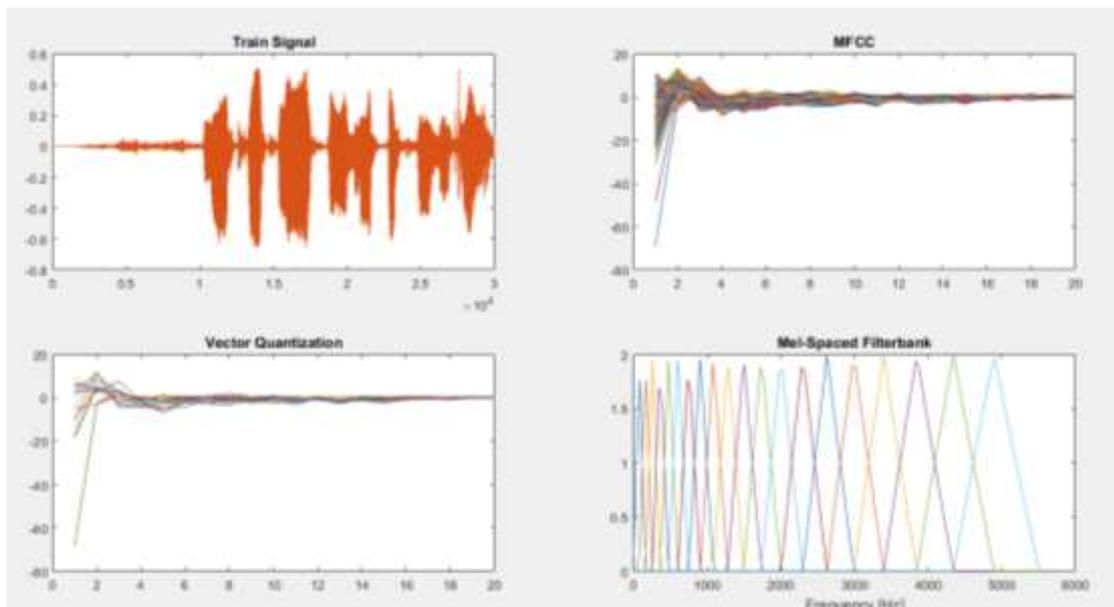


Figure 3: Voice component comparison using MFCC analysis

Using MFCC we can find the vector quantization level and Mel-spaced filter coefficient this method can fast response as compare to LPCC.

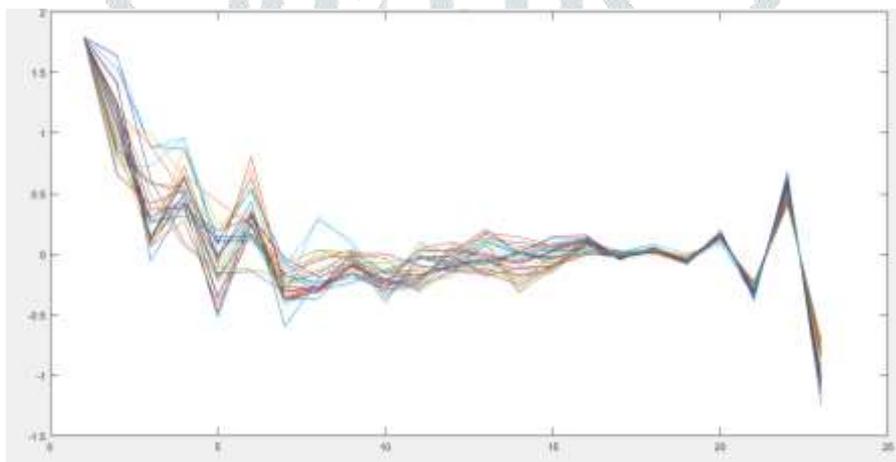


Figure 4: LPC analysis of voice

We also measure the efficiency in protected images after extraction. In PSNR, AD, MD, MAE, MSE, SC, LMSE, NCC shows the quality of extracted output image.



Figure 5: Quality Enhancement factors of Corrected image with output color image

V. RESULTS

In our system we used LSB based reversible data hiding technique. Here we hide small audio secret signal in big cover image. For increase security we add another image for multilevel security in steganography. In our system we measure the quality of data after extracting.

| No. | Extract Data Compression % | Extract Image Quality measurement % | Extract Audio Quality measurement % | Average Losses % |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 10 | 96 | 94 | 2.00 |
| 2 | 10.24 | 97 | 96 | 2.16 |
| 3 | 9.46 | 98 | 98 | 2.38 |
| 4 | 10.12 | 97 | 95 | 3.40 |
| 5 | 9.56 | 97 | 96 | 2.87 |
| 6 | 9.54 | 98 | 97 | 2.67 |
| 7 | 10.16 | 96 | 95 | 2.16 |
| 8 | 9.24 | 95 | 94 | 2.12 |
| 9 | 9.76 | 96 | 97 | 2.17 |
| 10 | 10.29 | 98 | 97 | 2.32 |

Table 1: Analysis of Output Extract data with original data

In shown in above table we see that our data is compressed from original data 9-10% with only average 3% losses. So our system is shows high efficiency. In previous system user can be hide audio data in images. Our system successfully hides audio data in images using of LSB technique. We have some of limitation it's helpful for short audio secret data.

VI. CONCLUSION

This paper implements hybrid audio steganography which hides the audio information by encrypting in multiple levels and embed into the variable LSB's of the selected samples based on polynomial expression as a function of Audio and image cover file. The algorithm is simulated and results have been validated by comparing with existing methods.

VII. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Expression of giving thanks is just a part of those feeling which are too large for words, but shall remain as memories of wonderful people with whom I have got the pleasure of working during the completion of this work. I am grateful to GD-Rungta College of engineering and technology, which helped me to complete my work by giving encouraging environment. I would like to express my deep and sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Associate Professor, Somesh Kumar Dewangan. His wide knowledge and his logical way of thinking have been of great value for me. His understanding, encouraging and personal guidance have provided a good basis for the present work.

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