

# A New Encryption Method for Secure Transmission of Images

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**Abstract -In this paper, a novel approach is designed for transmitting images securely using a technique called Gödelization followed by the public key encryption. The image which is to be transmitted is transformed into a sequence called Gödel Number Sequence (GNS) using a new technique called Gödelization. This is compressed using Alphabetic coding (AC) and encrypted by an encryption method. This encryption string is transmitted and reconstructed at the decoding end by using the reverse process.**

*Key Words: Alphabetic coding, Gödel Number Sequence (GNS), Public key Encryption*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

With the rapid expansion of the Internet and overall development of digital technologies there is a dire necessity for robust methods which provide greater security in handling digital content especially images. Digital watermarking and Steganography techniques are used to address these types of problems like protecting information and concealing secrets. However these techniques suffer from various limitations[1]. This paper proposes a novel methodology to overcome a few limitations by converting the image into a Gödel Number Sequence and transmitted securely using encryption methods.

## 2. BASIC CONCEPTS

There are basically three modules in the proposed method, namely the conversion of the image into a string of Gödel Number Sequence( also called the Gödelization),the alphabetic coding and the encryption proceeds. In this section a brief description of the definitions and the concepts of these three modules which are being used in the later part of the paper are presented.

**2.1 Gödelization:** The logician Kurt Gödel [3] developed an encoding scheme to assign numbers to statements and formulas in an axiomatic system which is based on prime factorization method. According to the proposed *Gödelization* method, it is a process of converting any positive integer which is greater than 1 into a sequence called Gödel Number Sequence(GNS). For any positive integer  $n > 1$ , define  $GNS(n) = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_k)$  where  $n = 2^{x_0} * 3^{x_1} * 5^{x_2} * \dots * P^{x_k}$  is the prime factorization of  $n$ . For example  $GNS(198) = (1, 2, 0, 0, 1)$  because  $198 = (2^1) * (3^2) * (5^0) * (7^0) * (11^1)$ . Although Gödel Numbering has been used for many applications, we use this scheme for encoding of digital images. Every digital image can be viewed as a sequence of intensity values ranging from 0 to  $2^m - 1$  for some positive integer  $m$ . Thus if any image is represented by intensity values  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_n)$ , then each of these intensity values can be converted into a Gödel Number Sequence  $GNS(i_1) \$ GNS(i_2) \$ \dots \$ GNS(i_n)$  is called the Gödel String of the image.

**2.2 Alphabetic Coding(AC):** This is a process of compressing a given string of numbers. If an image has  $N$  intensity values then the Gödel String consists of the digits 0 to  $\lceil \log_2 N \rceil$  (apart from \$ symbol). Normally  $N$  will be 255 and hence the Gödel string of any image will have numbers ranging from 0 to 7. Now 0,1,...,7 are replaced by A,B,...,H. If 3 or more characters are encountered in a sequence, then it is represented as  $KX$  where  $k$  is the number of occurrences of character  $X$ . So the string  $\$100000001\$0200000001$  is encoded as  $\$B7AB\$AB7AB\$$ . Here the length is reduced to 12 bytes from 21 bytes. With AC technique the length is reduced as well as second level of security is also provided.

**2.3 Encryption:** This is a process of encoding a given text or a string into an unintelligible format. There are two types of encryption methods being used in literature, namely Symmetric Encryption and the Public Key Encryption[4]. In symmetric key encryption the sender uses a key (a secret string) to encrypt the message which upon receiving at the

other end will be decrypted using the same secret key. That is, the secret key is known only to the sender and the receiver. However, in public key cryptography, both sender and the receiver will have two keys namely the public key and the private key. The sender encrypts the message using the receiver's public key and the receiver will decrypt it using his private key. Although any of the two methods may be used, in the proposed work symmetric key cryptography is adopted.

### 3. PROPOSED METHOD

The proposed technique involves three stages. The first stage consists of encoding the image into a Gödel String. In the second stage the Gödel string is compressed using Alphabetic coding which in the third stage will be encrypted using a symmetric key cryptosystem or a public key cryptosystem. At the decoding end again there will be three stages to recover back the image which are the reverse process of the above three. The encoding, decoding algorithms and the schemes are given in the following sections.

#### 3.1 Algorithm for Gödelization

The given image is converted to a Gödel string using the following algorithm.

- Step 1: Read the intensity values of the input image.
- Step 2: Generate the Gödel String of the image.
- Step 3: Compress the Gödel String using Alphabetic coding technique.
- Step 4: Encrypt the string obtained in step 3 using an symmetric key crypto system[4] with key K.

This encrypted string is transmitted to the other end. The scheme of the proposed encoding methodology is shown in Fig 1.

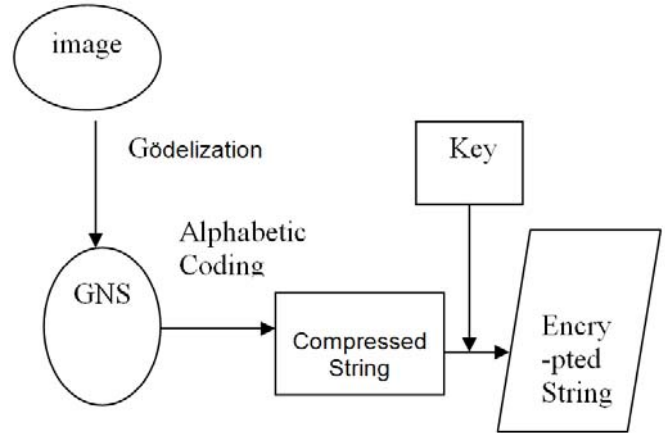


Fig1. Scheme for Gödelization Process

#### 3.2 Inverse Gödelization & Inverse Alphabetic Coding techniques

At the decoding end, there is a need to perform the inverse operations of Alphabetic coding and Gödelization techniques to obtain the original data. Inverse Alphabetic coding is the process of decompressing the string by replacing alphabets(A,B,...H) with digits(0,1,...7) and any substring KX is decompressed with K occurrences of X. The string obtained is in the form of  $GNS(i_1)GNS(i_2)\dots GNS(i_n)$  which is the Gödel String of the image and inverse Gödelization is applied to the string to obtain the intensity values of the image which are calculated as  $GNS(i) = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_k)$  where  $i = 2^{x_0} * 3^{x_1} * 5^{x_2} \dots P^{x_k}$ .

#### 3.3 Algorithm for Decryption

Once the encrypted form of the image is received, the image can be reconstructed using the following algorithm:

- Step 1: Decrypt the received string using the same symmetric key crypto system with the key K.
- Step 2: Decompress the string using inverse Alphabetic Coding.
- Step 3: Use inverse Gödelization for the string obtained in step 2 to get the intensity values of the image.
- Step 4: Construct the image with the values obtained in step 3.

The scheme of the proposed decryption methodology is shown in Fig 2.

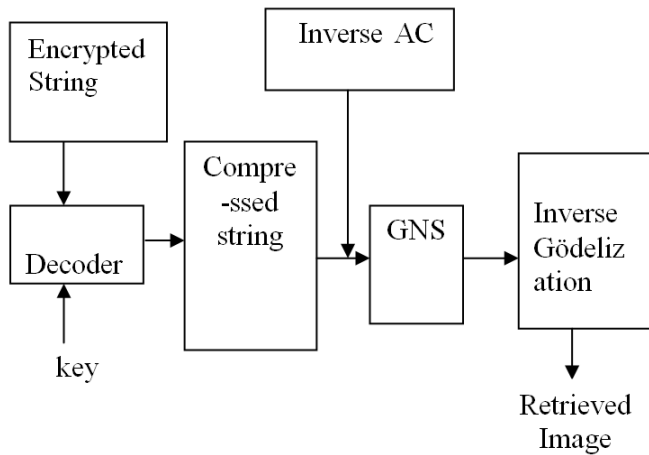
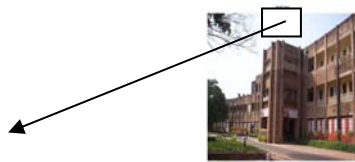


Fig 2. Scheme for decoding

#### 4. Results

Test cases are generated for images with intensity values ranging from 0-255 and for generating symmetric key DES is used.



178 171 155 110 43 30  
 186 178 165 128 66 172  
 194 182 171 147 94 32 01  
 198 183 171 158 114 42 10  
 204 190 175 165 130 55 1  
 210 202 184 173 146 72 12  
 207 208 190 176 154 83 19

Each intensity value of the image is taken and Gödel Number sequences are generated and each sequence is delimited by \$ to get Gödel Number String of the image as given below.

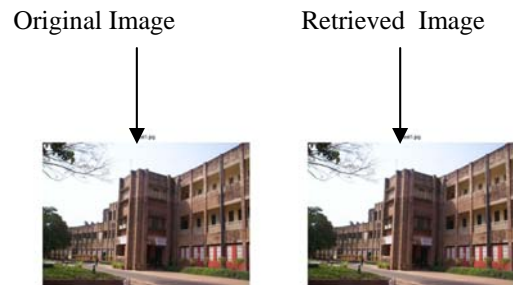
0 1 \$ 0  
 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 1 0 1  
 \$ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 1 \$ 10 \$ 1 1 0  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 1 1 0 1 \$ 7 \$ 1 1 0 0 1 \$ 0 0  
 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 \$ 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 0 1 0 1 \$ 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$  
 0 1 0 2 \$ 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 5 \$ 11  
 \$ 1 2 0 0 1 \$ 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1  
 \$ 0 2 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 1 0 1 \$ 10 \$

2 1 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 0 2 1 \$ 0 1 1  
 0 1 \$ 1 0 1 0 0 1 \$ 0 0 1 0 1 \$ 11 \$ 1 1 1 1 \$ 1  
 0 1  
 \$ 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 0  
 1 \$ 1 0 1 \$ 3  
 2 \$ 2 1 \$ 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 4 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 1  
 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 4 0 0 0 1 \$ 1 0 0 1 1 \$ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0  
 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 \$ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1  
 \$

As it is observed that there are repetitions of digits, Alphabetic coding is applied to the above string to obtain the compressed form which is as shown below.

B 22 A B \$ A C 5 A B \$ 2 A B 7 A B \$ B A B A B \$ 13 A B  
 \$ A B \$ X \$ 2 B 8 A B \$ B 22 A B \$ A 2 B A B \$ H \$ 2 B 2  
 A B \$ 6 A B \$ B \$ B 23 A B \$ B 2 A B A B \$ A C 5 A B \$  
 A B A C \$ B 13 A B \$ F \$ Y \$ B C 2 A B \$ A B 15 A B \$ A  
 C 5 A B \$ B 20 A B \$ 2 B 5 A B \$ 2 B A B \$ X \$ C B 4 A B  
 \$ B A B 4 A B \$ 2 A C B \$ A 2 B A B \$ B A B 2 A B \$ 2 A  
 B A B \$ Y \$ 4 B \$ B 24 A B \$ D 7 A B \$ 39 A B \$ B 19 A B  
 \$ D C \$ C B \$ A C 6 A B \$ E 4 A B \$ B A B 4 A B \$ E 3 A  
 B \$ B 2 A 2 B \$ 22 A B \$ 7 A B \$ .

The length of the GNS sequence is 498 and the length of the compressed string is 236 where we have achieved nearly 50% compression. There is a considerable amount of compression when compared. Now the above data (encoded and compressed string) is encrypted using any public key encryption techniques and a key will be generated. This key will be used at the decoding end to retrieve the encrypted data first, then inverse process of Alphabetic coding will be applied and then inverse Gödelization will be applied to retrieve the data, from which the image will be reconstructed. After decoding the retrieved image is as shown and we can observe that there is no distortion in the retrieved image.



#### 5. Conclusions & Future Work

A new model for transmitting an image securely using a technique called Gödelization is proposed. Experimental results show that the proposed method works efficiently for images and as well as for text, while for large images

Gödelization requires some processing time which is not a big concern with the available hardware support today. This method proves to be secure and efficient as two layers of encoding will be provided.

## 6. References

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B.V. Rama Devi completed her Masters Degree in Computer Science and Technology in 1998 from Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. She has been in software industry since 1998. She worked as a software Developer from 1998 till 2004 in Computer Science Unit, IIT Delhi, New Delhi and has extensive knowledge in INGRES RDBMS, INGRES DBA, UNIX, Shell Scripting and C. She has worked in large teams and presently handling the responsibility of Project Leader in Ms Steria. Has been awarded "PAT ON THE BACK" by Ms Steria several times. Has completed ITIL Foundation Certification.



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