

A Novel Technique for Ownership Protection and Authentication of Satellite Imagery

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Abstract — Satellite imagery is a pivotal source of valuable information for monitoring our planet along with natural resources. This proposed research paper deals with the design and development and performance evaluation of a novel algorithm for protection and authentication of DubaiSat satellite images. In the proposed research work, the ownership protection algorithm implemented in wavelet domain by embedding ownership information using discrete wavelet transform and authentication algorithm implemented in spatial domain by embedding hash function generated SHA3 key using bit insertion technique. In the proposed algorithm, by changing the scaling factor of watermarking, the robustness can be controlled and the proposed ownership protection algorithm can be implemented either in the RGB layer or Y layer of the DubaiSat satellite images. In the proposed paper, we will use various metrics such as structure similarity index measurement and peak signal to noise ratio to evaluate quality degradation of satellite images due to ownership information and authentication SHA3 key embedding process and normalized correlation metric is used to evaluate the quality of the extracted ownership information from watermarked satellite images. Our proposed ownership protection algorithm can survive various attacks such as lossy compression JPEG, cropping, median filter, average filter, noise addition and scaling attacks. The proposed authentication algorithm is sensitive to even small modification on the watermarked DubaiSat image and can accurately detect modified region on the various layers of watermarked satellite images. Our proposed ownership and authentication algorithm gives better performance compare to state-of-art algorithms mentioned in the literature review.

Keywords — Satellite Image, Peak Signal to Noise Ratio, Ownership Protection, Authentication, Normalized Correlation, SHA3 hash key, Structural Similarity Index Measurement.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Importance of Watermarking

Nowadays we are living in the era of information technology and there is a widespread use of digital photos, multimedia documents, photos and video. But still technology lacks the ownership protection of intellectual property rights. One of the

best technique to protect your digital documents from illegal usage is called digital watermarking, where some ownership information will be embedded within the cover image in a way that ownership information cannot be removed [1,2,3,4]. In general any digital watermarking algorithm consists of an encoding process and decoding process and it can be implemented either in spatial domain or frequency domain. The watermark information embedded into the digital cover image using encoding process, while the embedded watermark information can be later extracted from the cover image using decoding process. The watermarking technique can be used to protect the copyright ownership of any type of digital data and to control illegal usage of it. In general for copyright ownership protection of digital data can be implemented using frequency domain watermarking techniques called robust watermarking, while fragile watermarking techniques can be used for the content authentication of the multimedia products [5,6,7]. In general when developing or using a watermarking algorithm for copyright protection make sure that your algorithm can survive various type intentional and non-intentional attacks such as scaling attacks and lossy compression [8]. To make sure that your watermarking algorithm is effective, need to consider certain features such as undeletable and imperceptible [9,10]. Additionally need to check whether the watermarked data is edited or not and to protect the authenticity of the watermarked images, normally we are using fragile watermarking techniques. The fragile watermarking can accurately detect the modified region on the watermarked images using hash key generating function.

B. Evaluation of Watermarking Algorithm

While designing an ownership protection and authentication algorithm, the selection of various types metrics for the quality assessment of algorithm is very important. These quality measures play important roles in a broad range of applications such as image compression, communication, image enhancement and watermarking. Watermarked image quality can be assessed using two methods: subjective and objective. Objective methods are based on computational models that can predict perceptual image quality, while subjective methods are based on the perceptual assessment of a human viewer about the attributes of an image. Here we

will be discussing about various types of metrics to measure quality degradation cover image due to different type of watermarking methods and the quality of the extracted ownership information [11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16]. The mean square error (MSE) represents the cumulative squared error between the two image. MSE is defined as the square of differences in the pixel values between the corresponding pixels of the two images. The MES value indicate the level of the quality degradation of image by watermarking process at a pixel level. In our proposal, the MSE compares pixel by pixel quality between original and watermarked DubaiSat images. Mathematically, MSE is expressed as [12]:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{3xy} \sum_{m,n} ((Or_{m,n} - Wr_{m,n})^2 + (Og_{m,n} - Wg_{m,n})^2 + (Ob_{m,n} - Wb_{m,n})^2) \dots (1)$$

where Ob , Og and Or are the original satellite image blue layer, green layer and red layer components, while Wb, Wg and Wr are watermarked satellite image the blue layer, green layer and red layer components. The MSE value is inversely proportional to image quality degradation of watermarked satellite images.

The peak signal-to-noise ratio (PSNR) is an engineering term for the ratio between the maximum possible power of a signal and the power of corrupting noise. Here PSNR is used to measure the quality degradation due to the watermark encoding process under various scaling factors. The PSNR is an approximation to human perception of reconstruction quality and it is most easily defined via the MSE. In our proposal, the PSNR compares pixel by pixel quality between original and watermarked DubaiSat images. The higher the PSNR, the better the quality of the degraded image. Mathematically, PSNR is expressed as [14, 16].

$$PSNR = 10 \cdot \log_{10} \left(\frac{MAX_1^2}{MSE} \right) \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

where, MAX₁ is the maximum possible pixel value of the image. When the pixels are represented using 8 bits, then MAX₁ is 255 and in general, when pixels are represented using linear PCM with B bits per pixel, MAX₁ is 2^B-1.

The structural similarity image quality paradigm is based on the assumption that the human visual system is highly adapted for extracting structural information from the scene. The structural similarity index measure (SSIM) is proposed, by hypothesis that human nature is that it will extract structural information from a scene and the SSIM is used for measuring the similarity between two images and it is based on visible structures in the image. In our proposal the SSIM compares local pattern of normalized pixel intensities for luminance and contrast between original and watermarked DubaiSat images. Mathematically, SSIM is expressed [16].

$$SSIM(O, W) = (L(O, W))^{\alpha} \cdot (C(O, W))^{\beta} \cdot (S(O, W))^{\gamma} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

$$L(o, w) = \frac{2\mu_x\mu_y + A}{\mu_x^2 + \mu_y^2 + A}$$

$$C(o, w) = \frac{2\sigma_x\sigma_y + B}{\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 + B}$$

$$S(o, w) = \frac{\sigma_{xy} + C}{\sigma_x\sigma_y + C}$$

where L indicate the luminance, C indicate the contrast and S indicate the structure components respectively. Similary parameter α is sued to adjust relative importance of the luminance component, while β is used to adjust the relative importance of the contrast and γ is used to adjust the relative importance of the structure components. Finally O and W indicate the original and watermarked DubaiSat images. The higher value of SSIM mean larger similarity between watermarked and original DubaiSat images.

The quality of the ownership information extracted from watermarked Dubaisat image is measured using the Normalized Correlation (NC). If the extracted ownership watermark exactlty same as the original ownership information, then the NC will be 1. Mathematically NC is expressed as [11].

$$NC = \sum_{m,n} \frac{(Lo_{m,n}Lr_{x,y})}{Lo_{m,n}^2} \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

where Lo indicate the original ownership, while the Le indicate the extracted ownership information.

1.3 Image Discrete Wavelet Transform

The wavelet analysis is based on the concept of details and approximations, where the high frequency details components gives flavor and low frequency approximations components gives the identity. The discrete wavelet transform technique divide an image into four components known as LL, LH, HL and HH compenents, where horizontal (HL), vertical (LH) and diagonal (HH) are the three detail components, while LL is the lower resolution approximation image [20, 21, 22]. In the case of multi level wavelet transform, the decomposition process can be repeated a number of items. The advantages of the wavelet transform technique is the accurate aspects of the HVS and normally watermark information is embeded in to the high resolution less sensitive detail bands such as LH, HL and HH H.

II. Proposed Ownership Protection and Authentication Embedding Algorithm

The block diagram of the proposed ownership protection and authentication embedding algorithm is shown in Figure 1. Here initialy the ownership information is embeded into satellitae image by using the discrete wavelet transform in the wavelet

domain. Then hash function generated SHA3 512bit authentication key is embedded into the ownership information embeded satelliate image using the Odd/Even bit insertion method in the spatial domain [23, 24]. Our proposed ownership protection and authentication technique is blind and later to extract ownership information,no need the original satellite image.

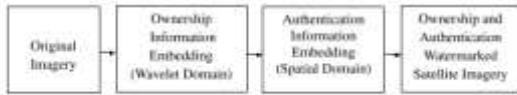


Figure 1. A block diagram of the proposed technique

A. Ownership Embedding Algorithm

Using discrete wavelet transform, the ownership embedding technique embeds ownership information into a selected RGB or Y layer of the satellite images in wavelet domain. This process will be done by using 2D-DWT ‘db1’ wavelet and by apply multi-level decomposition on selected RGB or Y layer of image as shown in Figure 2. Firstly, need to convert the ownership information into index mapped bits using the index mapping table shown in Table 1. Secondly the indexed ownership information embedded into the into selected multi-level decomposed block of the selected RGB or Y layer using Odd/Even hiding method which was explained using equation 5 [6, 18]. The block diagram of the ownership embedding algorithm is shown in Figure 3.

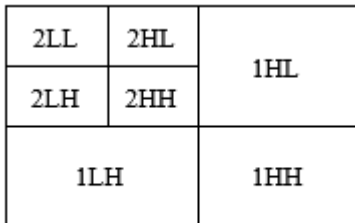


Figure 2. DWT multi-level decomposition

The ownership information embedding is done using the below given equation:

$$[2LL, 2LH, 2HL, 2HH] = 2DDWT\{B_k\}, \dots\dots(5)$$

if $Lo(m, n) = 0$ then

$$2LL(m, n) = \begin{cases} \Delta Q_o \left(\frac{2LL(m, n)}{\Delta} \right) \\ 2LL(m, n) \end{cases}$$

if $Lo(m, n) = 1$ then

$$2LL(m, n) = \begin{cases} \Delta Q_e \left(\frac{2LL(m, n)}{\Delta} \right) \\ 2LL(m, n) \end{cases}$$

where B_k represent the k^{th} block of selected RGB or Y layer of the DubaiSat image and 2LL represent the low

frequency approximation of the two level discrete cosine transform decomposed satellite image. The $Lo(m, n)$ indicate the the index mapped ownership information and Δ represent the scaling factor. The Q_e represent the even quantization and the Q_o represent odd quantization to an integer number.

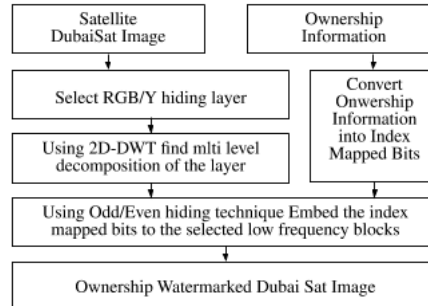


Figure 3. Ownership embedding algorithm

Table 1. Ownership information Index mapping table

Ownership Colours	Index Key	Binary Value
Colour1	0	00
Colour2	1	01
Colour3	2	10
Colour4	3	11

B. Authentication Embedding Algorithm

The authentication embedding algorithm embeds unique SHA3 512bits key generated into 64x64 authentication blocks of the ownership watermarked DubaiSat image using the insertion technique called LSB in spatial domain [21, 22]. The block diagram of the proposed authentication embedding algorithm is shown in Figure 4. To increase the security of authentication technique, we have used four 64 x 64 size random patterns keys as sown in Figure 5.

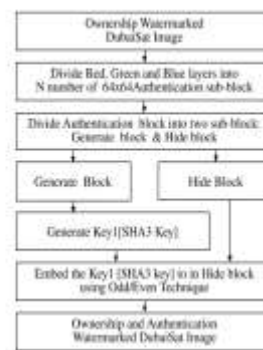


Figure 4. Authentication embedding algorithm.

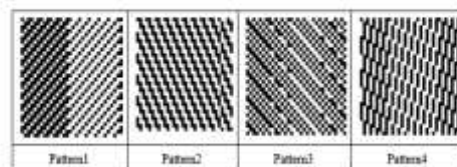


Figure 5. Random pattern selection keys

III. Proposed Ownership Protection and Authentication Extraction Algorithm

A. Authentication Extraction Algorithm

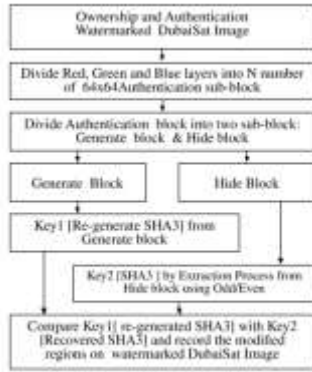


Figure 6. Authentication extraction algorithm

The block diagram of the authentication extraction algorithm is as shown in Figure 6. Here first need to run the proposed authentication extraction algorithm to check the level of authenticity of the DubaiSat image in block by block. Here firstly divide red, green and blue layers of the ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSat image into 64x64 authentication block and divide authentication block into hide block and generate block using 4 different patterns. As next step, extracts the authentication SHA3 key from the hide sub-blocks using the Odd/Even method and re-generate SHA3 key from generate sub-block. Now need to compare both SHA3 keys [re-generated and extracted] and If the extracted and re-generated SHA3 keys match, then the selected authentication block is authentic, else indicates that some modification has been done in the selected authentication sub-block.

B. Ownership Extraction Algorithm

The proposed ownership extraction algorithm is used for the ownership copyright protection of the DubaiSat images by extracting the ownership information from the ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSat image. Initially need to extract the ownership index mapped bits from selected selected RGB or Y layer, lower frequency block of the multi level discrete cosine transform decomposed watermarked image using Odd/Even decoding method mentioned in equation 6, Once extract the ownership index mapped bit, next step is convert it into ownership information using the same index mapping table used for ownership embedding process. The Figure 7, show the block diagram of the proposed ownership extraction process.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{if } Q \left(\frac{F_k(u,v)}{\Delta} \right) &\Rightarrow \text{Odd Number} \Rightarrow Lr(m,n) = 0 \\
 &\Downarrow \\
 &\text{Even Number} \\
 &\Downarrow \\
 Lr(m,n) &= 1
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{6}$$

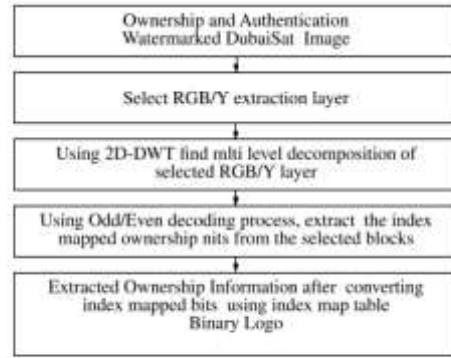


Figure 7. Ownership extraction algorithm

IV. Result and Analysis

Figure 8 shows the various satellite images [1024 x 1024 pixels] captured by DubaiSat used to test the performance of the developed ownership protection and authentication algorithm and Figure 9 shows University of Dubai logo [128x128] used as ownership information. Hash function is used to generate a unique SHA3 512bit length hash-key for authentication key and various scaling factors such as 12, 16, 20 and 20 are used to control the watermark strength of the developed algorithm. Various metrics such as the peak signal to noise ration and structural similarity index measure are used to asses the quality degradation of DubaiSat image due to different type of watermarking and normalized correlation value is used to compare the quality of the extracted ownership information with original ownership information. The robustness performance of the developed ownership protection and authentication algorithm is evaluated under different types of attacks such as scaling, filtering, cropping and lossy compression JPEG attacks.



Figure 8. DubaiSat images



Figure 9. Ownership information

The peak signal to noise ration performance of the RGB and Y layer ownership watermarked images under various watermark strength scaling factor are

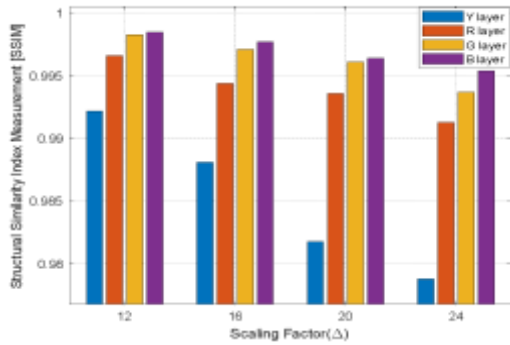


Figure 11. SSIM analysis of RGB and Y layers ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSatA

Table 9. Extracted ownership information NC analysis under scaling attack for DubaiSat images

Images ($\Delta=20$)	layer	Scaling 12%	Scaling 110%	Scaling 90%	Scaling 86%	Scaling 79%	Scaling 68%	Scaling 50%	Scaling 46%
DubaiSatA	Red	0.992	0.992	0.992	0.974	0.951	0.920	0.911	0.852
	Green	0.994	0.991	0.984	0.972	0.946	0.916	0.903	0.832
	Blue	0.995	0.993	0.983	0.963	0.934	0.907	0.897	0.847
	Y	0.999	0.995	0.994	0.983	0.963	0.948	0.928	0.899
DubaiSatB	Red	0.993	0.991	0.991	0.991	0.952	0.931	0.902	0.824
	Green	0.995	0.995	0.993	0.993	0.952	0.932	0.904	0.824
	Blue	0.997	0.997	0.993	0.992	0.954	0.944	0.916	0.826
	Y	0.999	0.999	0.997	0.995	0.966	0.956	0.928	0.838
DubaiSatC	Red	0.997	0.997	0.981	0.974	0.952	0.928	0.901	0.842
	Green	0.993	0.992	0.982	0.974	0.950	0.919	0.909	0.843
	Blue	0.992	0.993	0.983	0.958	0.933	0.904	0.897	0.835
	Y	0.998	0.998	0.992	0.988	0.967	0.968	0.929	0.848

Table 10. Extracted ownership information NC analysis under cropping, filter and noise attacks for watermarked DubaiSatA

Cropping Attacks ($\Delta=20$)	NC	Filter Attacks ($\Delta=20$)		Noise Attacks ($\Delta=20$)	NC
		NC	NC		
Vertical 50%	0.817	Average	0.833	Salt and Pepper [density=0.15]	0.908
	5	3x3	1		
Vertical 75%	0.878	Average	0.833	Salt and Pepper [density=0.025]	0.854
	7	5x5	3		
Horizontal 50%	0.815	Average	0.832	Salt and Pepper [density=0.15]	0.816
	7	7x7	3		
Horizontal 75%	0.881	Average	0.796	Salt and Pepper [density=0.045]	0.801
	4	9x9	7		
Both sides 25%	0.933	Median	0.867	Gaussian [variance=0.0013]	0.809
	6	3x3	3		
Both sides 50%	0.884	Median	0.842	Gaussian [variance=0.0023]	0.776
	8	5x5	3		
Both sides 75%	0.838	Median	0.839	Poisson	0.830
	9	7x7	7		

Table 8. Extracted Ownership information NC analysis under JPEG compression attack for DubaiSat Images

JPEG($\Delta=20$)	Layer	95%	85%	75%	65%	55%	45%	35%	25%
DubaiSatA	Red	0.9988	0.8643	0.8141	0.8013	0.7968	0.8063	0.8114	0.80243
	Green	0.9998	0.9738	0.9244	0.8765	0.8306	0.8045	0.7993	0.8066
	Blue	0.9889	0.8137	0.8083	0.8087	0.8095	0.8084	0.8082	0.8069
	Y	0.9999	0.9995	0.9994	0.9965	0.9707	0.9167	0.8416	0.8022
DubaiSatB	Red	0.9948	0.8456	0.8012	0.79345	0.7958	0.7944	0.8022	0.8034
	Green	0.9997	0.9665	0.9034	0.8495	0.8074	0.7935	0.7953	0.7976
	Blue	0.9738	0.8028	0.8025	0.7968	0.8015	0.8022	0.8024	0.8018
	Y	0.9997	0.9995	0.9994	0.9918	0.9424	0.8696	0.8038	0.7871
DubaiSatC	Red	0.9978	0.8478	0.7913	0.7788	0.7897	0.7946	0.8001	0.8013
	Green	0.9999	0.9734	0.8983	0.8378	0.7913	0.7812	0.7892	0.7945
	Blue	0.9878	0.8078	0.7823	0.7835	0.7916	0.7975	0.8002	0.8007
	Y	0.9999	0.9998	0.9996	0.9778	0.9017	0.8228	0.7908	0.7919

Tables 8 show the extracted ownership information quality comparison under different lossy compression [JPEG] attacks from the all the RGB layers and Y layer of ownership and authentication watermarked satellite images [DubaiSatA, DubaiSatB and DubaiSatC] and Figure 12 shows the extracted ownership information quality comparison using the metric NC. Similarly Tables 9 show the extracted ownership information quality comparison under scaling attacks from the all the RGB layers and Y layer ownership and authentication watermarked satellite images and Figure 13 shows the extracted ownership information quality comparison using the metric NC. Table 10 show extracted ownership information quality comparison using normalized correlation under different type of attacks such as filter attack, noise attack and image cropping attack.

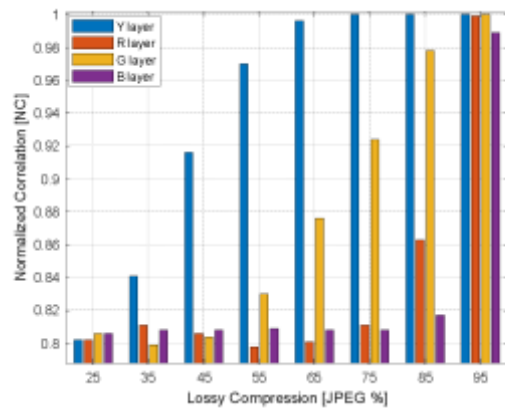


Figure 12. Extracted ownership information NC analysis under JPEG attack from DubaiSatA

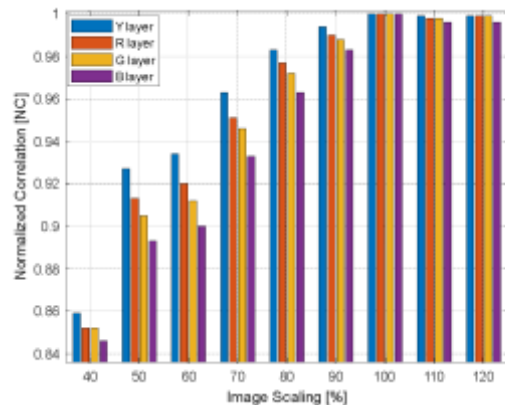


Figure 13. Extracted ownership information NC analysis under scaling attack from DubaiSatA

The developed authentication extraction algorithm compares the hash-hide sub-block, extracted 512bits SHA3 key with hash-generate sub-block, re-generated 512bits SHA3 key using hash function. If any modification has done at random pixel value in the watermarked images, as per our developed authentication extraction algorithm, there will be a difference between the SHA3 regenerated key and the extracted SHA3 key of the modified 64 x 64 authentication sub-block of the watermarked DubaiSat image. Table 11 shows a comparison between the regenerated SHA3 key and extracted SHA3 key, if any modification has done either in hide block or generate block of the selected layers of the watermarked RGB DubaiSat image or both block. Figure 14 shows modified region that are detected, when random selected pixels value minimum change by 1 in any layers of the watermarked RGB DubaiSatA image. Similarly, Figure 15 shows the modified region detected on ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSatA image.

Table 11. SHA3 keys extracted and re-generated from Authentication sub-block when DubaiSat image modification

64x64 Authentication Block	Key1: Extracted SHA3	Key2: Re-generated SHA3
Red layer tampered/modified	c2833941311897d9f2e682a8e6b676 a73c24e93813c88a10c6c652938831 6c2033941311897d9f2e682a8e6b676 6a73c24e93813c88a10c6c652938831	83548c27ac1645372649672b431acb 923f9a666a482f85348c27ac16453 372649672b431acb8923f9a666a482 82f85348c27ac1645372649672b431acb
Green layer tampered/modified	78d4518aba4e1668063c0c303745d e4837d9366506c277bc3888d768e4 5d4830b2e032ca2946d07ed5cfa31e0 75d72556b27278e527907efafack256b	78c2f839a79d43e8344c27ac164533 440b72b431acb8923f9a666a482f85 90260631aaac32b6623280e8ff7efabc 337e32338b7886c93e9474c8151213 a
Blue layer tampered/modified	403db2ed32c1a2946d07405db2ed32c 1a2946d07ed5cfa31e075d72556b2727 ff0c27907efafack256b2cfa31e075 f72556b27278e527907efafack256b	3d6c6389760363f863348c27ac16453 372649672b431acb8923f9a666a482f 2f85348c27ac1645372649672b431acb 9a24839ac6056bc58334e67948223b

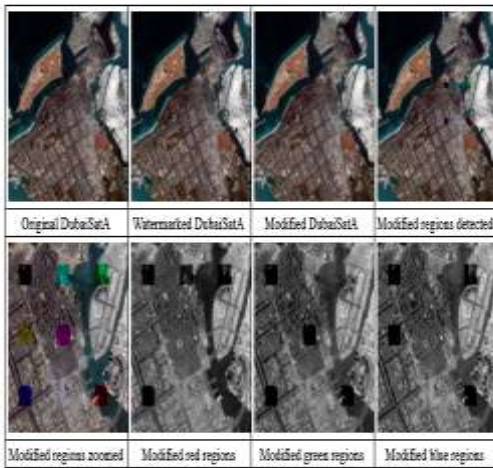


Figure 14. Localized modified regions detection from ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSatA

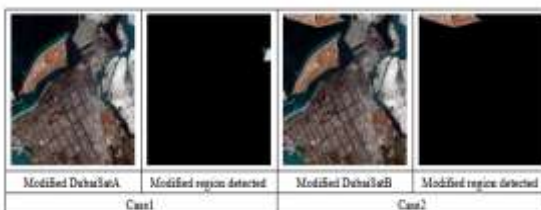


Figure 15. Modified regions detected from ownership and authentication watermarked DubaiSatA

Table 12, shows the performance comparison [PSNR] of the developed ownership protection and authentication algorithm with different state of the art algorithms discussed in the literature review. The developed ownership protection and authentication algorithm, gives better performance under many attacks such as lossy compression JPEG, image scaling, average filter, median filter and different level of cropping attacks. The developed authentication algorithm can accurately detect the modified region on tampered watermarked DubaiSat images.

Table 12. Developed algorithm comparison with other state of art techniques

Various Techniques	Implementation Domain	Cover Image	Watermark	PSNR
[8]	Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)	512 x 512	128 x 128	31.25 dB
[10]	Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)	512 x 512	128 x 128	42.25 dB
[21]	Sinat Transform (ST)	512 x 512	64 x 64	37.44 dB
[27]	Discrete Wavelet Transform (DCT)	1024 x 1024	64 x 64	40.55 dB
Developed Algorithm	DWT & Spatial	1024 x 1024	128 x 128	41.16 dB

V. CONCLUSIONS

We have designed and implemented, a novel blind method for the ownership copyright protection and digital content authentication of satellite DubaiDsat images and tested the performance of developed algorithm using 1024 x 1024 24 bits satellite images captured by DubaiSat under many attacks such as lossy compression JPEG, scaling attack, filtering attack and cropping attack and random selected location forced pixel modifications attacks. In this research work, ownership protection algorithm implemented in wavelet domain by embedding the ownership information using discrete wavelet transform, while the authentication algorithm implemented by embedding 512 bits SHA3 genetrated hash key in spatial domain using a method called least significant bit insertion. The strength of the developed ownership protection algorithm can be controlled by adjusting the value watermark scaling factor and the developed algorithm cause little distortion to satellite DubaiSat images. We have used various metrics such as structure similarity index measurement and peak signal to noise ratio to evalaute quality of watermarked DubaiSat images and normalized correlation metric is used to evaluate the quality of the extracted ownership information from watermarked images. Developed ownership and authentication algorithm used an index mapping table to reduce the ownership payload from 24 bits /pixel to 2 bits key and to increase the security of authentication algorithm 4 different, 64 x 64 pixels pattern keys also used. In the proposed ownership protection and authentication algorithm distortion is caused mainly by the ownership protection algorithm and the distortion caused by the authentication algorithm is very small compare to ownership algorithm. The quality degradation of the

ownership information extracted is analyzed by using the normalized correlation metrics and from results analysis, it is proved that in the case of lossy JPEG compression, the embedding in Y layer is more robust as compared to the RGB layer embedding technique. By various experimental analysis, it is concluded that ownership information embedding in selected layer of RGB gives better perceptual invisibility compare to embedding in Y layer of satellite DubaiSat image. Finally our developed algorithm can accurately detection modified region on all the layers of watermarked satellite image upto an accuracy of 64x64 sub-blocks.

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