**Image Cryptography using Nearest Prime Pixels**

**ABSTRACT**

Protecting the data in a safe and secure way which does not impede the access of an authorized authority is an immensely difficult and very interesting research problem. image cryptography is a special type of encryption technique to obscure image-based secret information which can be decrypted by Human Visual System. Communication is the process of transmitting information from source to destination. The exchanging information should not be stolen by unauthorized parties like hackers while sending or receiving via channel. To avoid this stealing of the information visual cryptography techniques are used. This paper proposes a novel method for key generation by using nearest prime pixels. Further 2’s complement and logical operations are performed to generate decrypted image. The final decrypted image is generated by representing pixels in matrix form and data is retrieved in column wise.

Keywords—Image Cryptography; Nearest prime pixels; 2’s complement; XOR operation;