# IMAGE AUTHENTICATION THROUGH Z-TRANSFORM WITH LOW ENERGY AND BANDWIDTH (IAZT)

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#### ABSTRACT

In this paper a Z-transform based image authentication technique termed as IAZT has been proposed to authenticate gray scale images. The technique uses energy efficient and low bandwidth based invisible data embedding with a minimal computational complexity. Near about half of the bandwidth is required compared to the traditional Z-transform while transmitting the multimedia contents such as images with authenticating message through network. This authenticating technique may be used for copyright protection or ownership verification. Experimental results are computed and compared with the existing authentication techniques like Li's method [11], SCDFT [13], Region-Based method [14] and many more based on Mean Square Error (MSE), Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR), Image Fidelity (IF), Universal Quality Image (UQI) and Structural Similarity Index Measurement (SSIM) which shows better performance in IAZT.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Z-Transform; Frequency Domain; Watermarking; Mean Square Error (MSE); Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR); Image Fidelity (IF); Universal Quality Image (UQI); Structural Similarity Index Measurement (SSIM).

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

In today's digital world there is an enormous increase in the amount of multimedia content over internet such as image, video and audio materials. Such materials are traverse through wire and unwired medium in a carryon fashion.

Small digital device such as tablet, capsule, mobile, PDA's and many others are not yet small in physical senses due to their processing power and memory capacity. But the problem of sharing vast amount of multimedia contents over internet creates a concern among researchers regarding the bandwidth utilization. In case of static spectrum assignment for mobile or radio networks bandwidth becomes a major concern. Digital devices may improve their performance by improving processor or memory unit but bandwidth becomes the major limitation for transferring huge digital data.

In case of gray scale images each element called pixel, representing the luminance at a given point in the image commonly represented by an 8 bit number in a spatial domain. Digital data traverse through network in a bit form of spatial data or frequency components. A single flip of bit is enough to destroy single pixel, but in case of frequency domain signal/images are first

converted from spatial domain. Thus the probability of pixel value changes decreases as compared to spatial domain.

Many transformation techniques such as DFT[1], DCT[2,9,10], DWT[3], Daubechies[15] and others are already implemented in digital world and widely used in steganography[4], data compression and many more.

This paper proposed a frequency domain based technique where the digital content such as image is converted form spatial domain to Z-domain with a 2x2 sliding window based mask in a row major order to generate 2x2 real value and 2x2 imaginary value with less amount of computation and without the trigonometry complexity. This paper also emphasis on transmitting the image over unsecure network with detection of tempering through invisible watermarking, where half of the Z domain coefficients are enough to regenerate original image and find out the damaged portion.

Various parametric tests are performed and results obtained are compared with most recent existing techniques such as, WTSIC [5], Yuancheng Li's Method [11] and Region-Based watermarking [14], based on Mean Square Error (MSE), Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR), Image Fidelity (IF) analysis [7] and Universal Quality Image (UQI) and Structural Similarity Index Measurement (SSIM) [17] which shows a consistent relationship with the existing techniques.

Section 2 of this paper deals with the technique with six sub sections. Results and discussions are outlined in section 3, conclusions are drawn in section 4 and references are given at end.

#### **2.** THE TECHNIQUE

The IAZT technique is divided into four major tasks. Forward Z-transform as describe in section 2.1, Inverse Z-Transform given in section 2.2, 2.5 elaborate the procedure of bandwidth minimization and 2.6 emphases on embedding technique. Traditional and fast Z-transform calculations are also done with example in section 2.3 and 2.4 respectively.

#### 2.1. Forward Z-Transformation

Z-transform in signal processing converts a discrete time domain signal which is a sequence of real or complex numbers into a complex frequency domain representation. Z-transform can be defined in two ways, unilaterally or bilaterally.

In bilateral or two sided Z-transform of discrete time signal x[n] is the formal power series X(z) defined by eq(1).

$$X(\mathbf{z}) = Z\{\mathbf{x}[n]\} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}[n]\mathbf{z}^{-n}$$
<sup>(1)</sup>

Where n is an integer and z is, in general, a complex number.

Alternatively, in cases where x[n] is defined only for  $n \ge 0$ , the single sided or unilateral Z-transform is defined by eq(2).

$$X(\mathbf{z}) = Z\{\mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}]\} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}[\mathbf{n}]\mathbf{z}^{-n}$$
  
$$\mathbf{z} = re^{j\omega} = r(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)$$
 (2)

Where r is the magnitude of X(z), j is the imaginary unit, and  $\omega$  is the angle in radians. We get eq(3) by substituting the value of X(z) in eq(2).

$$X(\mathbf{z}) = Z\{\mathbf{x}[n]\} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}[n]r^{-n}e^{-j\omega n}$$
or
$$X(\mathbf{z}) = Z\{\mathbf{x}[n]\} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{x}[n]r^{-n}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-n}$$
(3)

On applying eq(3) for forward transformation over 2x2 mask of cover image in a row major order, four frequency component generates such as lower, horizontal, vertical and complex conjugate pair of horizontal frequency as shown in figure 1.a this is similar to subband coding[5].

Every frequency coefficients in lower to higher frequency bands are complex number in the format of 'a + j b'. Separation of real and imaginary parts is shown in figure 1.b and 1.c respectively.

| Lower                      | Horizontal                           |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Frequency (LF)             | frequency (HF)                       |
| Vertical<br>frequency (VF) | Complex<br>conjugate pair of<br>(HF) |

(a) Z-coefficient quadrants of complex value 'a + j b'

| Real part of       | Real part of       | Imaginary part          | Imaginary part                         |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--|
| LF                 | HF                 | of LF                   | of HF                                  |
| Real part of<br>VF | Real part of<br>HF | Imaginary part<br>of VF | Negation of<br>Imaginary part<br>of HF |

(b) Real part of all frequency components (c) Imaginary part of all frequency components

Figure. 1. Structural representation of forward Z-Transform (FZT)

#### 2.2. Inverse Z-Transformation

Every transform technique exists with pair of equation, forward and inverse. The inverse Ztransform can be obtained by eq(4).

$$x[n] = Z^{-1}\{X(z)\} = \frac{1}{2\pi j} \oint_C X(z) z^{n-1} dz$$
<sup>(4)</sup>

where C is a counter clockwise closed path encircling the origin and entirely in the region of convergence (ROC). A special case of this contour integral occurs when C is the unit circle. The inverse Z-transform simplifies to eq (5).

$$x[n] = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{+\pi} X(e^{j\omega}) e^{j\omega n} d\omega$$
<sup>(5)</sup>

The original gray scale image as shown in figure 2.a 'Map.pgm' on forward Z transform (FZT) generates four real value subband and four imaginary subband as shown in figure 2.b and 2.d respectively. The information on the bands are emphasis through threshold as shown in figure 2.c and 2.e for real and imaginary parts respectively. Threshold increases the brightness of the small information present in the band as the value of frequency coefficients are not belonging to the range of image. Inverse Z transform applied on real and imaginary parts generate lossless image back with a MSE[7] as zero and that of PSNR[7] is infinity.





#### 2.3. Traditional Z Transform

We have consider a special case of Z-transform where the value of r is taken as 1, and the angular frequency  $\omega \in \{[0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2]\}$ . The forward Z-transformation for the vector X (single mask of 2 x 2) is represented in figure 4(a), and the equation is given in eq (6). The elaborate form of eq (6) is shown in eq (7) where C<sub>v</sub> is the coefficient value.

| $X_{00}$        | $X_{01}$        | R <sub>00</sub> | $R_{01}$        | $I_{00}$ | $I_{01}$ |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| X <sub>10</sub> | X <sub>11</sub> | R <sub>10</sub> | R <sub>11</sub> | $I_{10}$ | $I_{11}$ |

(a) Single mask (b) Real value after FZT (c) Imaginary value after FZT Figure. 3. Single mask representation of Image and its components after forward Z-Transformation (FZT).

$$X(\mathbf{z}) = Z\{\mathbf{x}[n]\} = \sum_{n=0}^{3} \mathbf{x}[n]r^{-n}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-n}$$
(6)  

$$C_{\mathbf{v}} = [\mathbf{x}[0]r^{-0}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-0}] + [\mathbf{x}[1]r^{-1}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-1}] + [\mathbf{x}[2]r^{-2}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-2}] + [\mathbf{x}[3]r^{-3}(\cos\omega + j\sin\omega)^{-3}]$$
(7)

Different angular frequency  $\omega \in \{[0, \pi/2, \pi, 3\pi/2]\}$  is taken and with r = 1 the complex coefficients values  $C_v = R_{lm} + jI_{lm}$  are calculated by equation set eq(8).

$$R_{lm} + jI_{lm} = \sum_{k=0}^{3} [x[k]1^{-k}(\cos\omega + \sin\omega)^{-k}]$$
(8)

Here  $\omega$  depends on the value of lm.

$$m \rightarrow 0 \qquad 1$$

$$l \downarrow 0 \qquad \omega = 0 \qquad \omega = \pi/2$$

$$1 \qquad \omega = \pi \qquad \omega = 3\pi/2$$

Example 1:

Let's take vector  $X_{ij} = (146, 56, 118, 100)$ ; r = 1; and  $\omega \in \{[0, 90, 180, 270]\}$ . As per eq (8) calculation are followed and represented in figure 4.

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{R}_{00} + j\mathbf{I}_{00} &= [146 * 1^0 (\cos 0 + j \sin 0)^0] + [56 * 1^{-1} (\cos 0 + j \sin 20)^{-1}] + [118 * 1^{-2} (\cos 0 + j \sin 0)^{-2}] + [100 * 1^{-3} (\cos 0 + j \sin 0)^{-3}] \\ &= [146 * (1 + j 0)^0] + [56 * (1 + j 0)^{-1}] + [118 * (1 + j 0)^{-2}] + [100 * (1 + j 0)^{-3}] \\ &= [146 + 56 + 118 + 100] + j 0 = 420 + 0 j \\ \text{Likewise} \\ \mathbf{R}_{01} + j \mathbf{I}_{01} = 28 + j 44 \ , \ \mathbf{R}_{10} + j \mathbf{I}_{10} = 108 + j 0 \ , \ \mathbf{R}_{11} + j \mathbf{I}_{11} = 28 - j 44 \end{split}$$

| 146 | 56  | 420 | 28 | 0 | 44  |
|-----|-----|-----|----|---|-----|
| 118 | 100 | 108 | 28 | 0 | -44 |

(a) Single mask (b) Real value after FZT (c) Imaginary value after FZT Figure. 4. Example 1 represented with its components after FZT

#### 2.4. Fast Z-Transformation

Z-Transform may also be represented with minimizing the computation and without the use of trigonometric functions, only by applying addition and subtraction. The frequency coefficients on FZT are complex numbers in the format of a + j b. The value of 'a' and 'b' on calculating by traditional Z transform are identical as calculated by Fast Z- transform. Fast Z transformation required less number of complex calculations as compared by traditional calculation.

#### 2.4.1Algorithm for forward Z-transformation

Input:  $X_{00}$ ,  $X_{01}$ ,  $X_{10}$  and  $X_{11}$ . Output:  $R_{00}$ ,  $R_{01}$ ,  $R_{10}$ ,  $R_{11}$ ,  $I_{00}$ ,  $I_{01}$ ,  $I_{10}$ , and  $I_{11}$ . Method: Perform arithmetic calculation for fast forward Z-transform. Step1:  $R_{00}$  and  $I_{00}$  calculation by eq (9)

$$R_{00} = \sum_{i,j=0}^{1} X_{ij}$$
<sup>(9)</sup>

$$\mathbf{R}_{00} = (\mathbf{X}_{00} + \mathbf{X}_{01} + \mathbf{X}_{10} + \mathbf{X}_{11})$$

Step2:  $R_{10}$  and  $I_{10}$  calculation by eq(10)

$$R_{10} = \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{i0} - \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{i1}$$

$$R_{10} = (X_{00} + X_{10}) - (X_{01} + X_{11})$$
(10)

Step 3:  $R_{01}$  and  $I_{01}$  calculation by eq (11) and eq (12)

$$R_{01} + I_{01} = \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{ii} - \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{ii}^{*}$$

$$R_{0I} + I_{0I} = (X_{00} + X_{II}) - (X_{01} + X_{10})$$

$$R_{01} - I_{01} = \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{0i} - \sum_{i=0}^{1} X_{1i}$$

$$R_{0I} - I_{0I} = (X_{00} + X_{0I}) - (X_{I0} + X_{II})$$
(12)

Equation 11 shows a relation as  $a^*x + b^*y = c_1$  and  $a^*x - b^*y = c_2$ , where 'a' and 'b' are depend on the value of r used. Two unknown x and y needs to be calculated by two equation 11 and 12. Step 4: R<sub>11</sub> and I<sub>11</sub> calculation by eq (13)

$$\mathbf{R}_{II} = \mathbf{R}_{0I} \text{ and } \mathbf{I}_{II} = -\mathbf{I}_{0I}$$
 (13)

Let's recalculate the sample taken in example 1 with fast z-transform: -

$$R_{00} = (146 + 56 + 118 + 100) = 420$$

$$R_{10} = (146 + 118) - (56 + 100) = 108$$

$$R_{01} + I_{01} = (146 + 100) - (56 + 118)$$

$$R_{01} + I_{01} = 72$$
(14)
$$R_{01} - I_{01} = (146 + 56) - (118 + 100)$$

$$R_{01} - I_{01} = -16$$
(15)

There are two unknowns and two equations eq (14) and eq (15) by equating this two equations we can have the value of  $R_{01}$  and  $I_{01}$ . Such as follows, Eq (15) can rewritten as  $R_{01} = -16 + I_{01}$ , that is when substituted in eq (14) we get,  $-16 + 2I_{01} = 72$ , that means,  $2I_{01} = 72 + 16$  or  $I_{01} = 44$ . When substituting  $I_{01} = 44$ , in eq (15) we achieved,  $R_{01} = -16 + 44$ , that is  $R_{01} = 28$ .

Thus,  $R_{01} = 28$  and  $I_{01} = 44$ 

Now  $R_{11}$  is equivalent to  $R_{01}$ , That is 28 and  $I_{11}$  is negation of  $I_{01}$ , which is -44 by eq (13). This two pair 28 + j 44 and 28 – j 44 are known as complex conjugate pair.

#### 2.4.2 Algorithm for Inverse Z-Transformation

In case of inverse transform the calculation will is done using eq(16) to eq(19) Input :  $R_{(a)}$ ,  $R_{(b)}$ ,  $R_{(c)}$ ,  $R_{(d)}$ ,  $I_{(a)}$ ,  $I_{(c)}$ , and  $I_{(d)}$ . Output:  $X_{00}$ ,  $X_{01}$ ,  $X_{10}$  and  $X_{11}$ . Method: Perform arithmetic calculation by equation set (16) to (19) for fast inverse Z-transformation Step1: Calculate  $X_{00}$  by eq (16).

$$X_{00} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=0}^{\infty} R_{ij} + I_{ij}$$
(16)

Elaborated as:-  $X_{00} = [\{(R_{00}+I_{00}) + (R_{01}+I_{01})\} + \{(R_{10}+I_{10}) + (R_{11}+I_{11})\}]/4$ Step 2: Calculate  $X_{01}$  by eq (17).

$$X_{01} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{ii} + I_{ii}) - \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{ii'} + I_{ii'}) \right\}$$
(17)

Elaborated as:-  $X_{01} = [\{(R_{00}+I_{00}) - (R_{01}+I_{01})\} - \{(R_{10}+I_{10}) - (R_{11}+I_{11})\}]/4$ Step3: Calculate  $X_{10}$  by eq (18).

$$X_{10} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{i0} + I_{i0}) - \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{i1} + I_{i1}) \right\}$$
(18)

Elaborated as: -  $X_{10} = [\{(R_{00}+I_{00}) - (R_{01}+I_{01})\} + \{(R_{10}+I_{10}) - (R_{11}+I_{11})\}]/4$ Step4: Calculate  $X_{11}$  by eq (19).

$$X_{11} = \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{0i} + I_{0i}) - \sum_{i=0}^{1} (R_{1i} + I_{1i}) \right\}$$
(19)

Elaborated as: -  $X_{11} = [\{(R_{00}+I_{00}) + (R_{01}+I_{01})\} - \{(R_{10}+I_{10}) + (R_{11}+I_{11})\}] / 4$ 

Calculation with sample value of example 1:

$$\begin{split} X_{00} &= \left[ \left\{ (420+0) + (28+44) \right\} + \left\{ (108+0) + (28+-44) \right\} \right] / 4 = 146 \\ X_{01} &= \left[ \left\{ (420+0) - (28+44) \right\} - \left\{ (108+0) - (28+-44) \right\} \right] / 4 = 56 \\ X_{10} &= \left[ \left\{ (420+0) - (28+44) \right\} + \left\{ (108+0) - (28+-44) \right\} \right] / 4 = 118 \\ X_{11} &= \left[ \left\{ (420+0) + (28+44) \right\} - \left\{ (108+0) + (28+-44) \right\} \right] / 4 = 100 \end{split}$$

#### 2.5. Bandwidth Minimization/Transmission Efficiency

A 2 x 2 mask of spatial data after FZT generates two 2 x 2 matrixes for real and imaginary frequency coefficient values, which means, information need to traverse after FZT will become double in terms of data. An examples is shown in figure 4 based on the representation of figure 3. On analysis of eight subbands, four real and four imaginary valued, based on the temporary environment created for z transform. It can be clearly elucidate that at most six subbands are

required at destination to regenerate the lossless image, due to the entire zero value imaginary part for lower frequency (LF) and vertical frequency (VF) (in this case due to  $\omega$ ). Two more subbands can reduce without any loss due to the complex conjugate pair of horizontal frequency (HF). Thus in total, minimum requirement is four subbands out of eight to regenerate the original image without any loss as shown in figure 5. Few more examples are also shown in figure 9.



Figure. 5. Four subband required to generate the lossless image, Map image subbands to minimize bandwidth, real value of LF coefficients, real value of HF coefficients, real value of VF coefficient and Imaginary part of HF (Threshold Image).

## 2.6. Embedding Technique

On first level forward transformation in Z-domain the image is represented in eight sub image/bands [16] as shown in fig. 2(b) and 2(d). The subbands are tag by name shown in figure 1. In proposed IAZT only four bands [16] are declared as compulsory for regeneration of image on receiver side with secret invisible message/watermark as shown in figure 5. Out of four compulsory bands 'real part of vertical frequency', 'real part of horizontal frequency' and 'Imaginary part of horizontal frequency' may be used to embed secret information. The position of embedding bit is selected on the basis of hash function.

Embedding is based on payload, for 0.5 bpB of payload the 'real part of vertical frequency' is embedded by two secret bits per byte, results are shown in table 1. Same payload may be achieved by embedding two bits per byte in 'real part of horizontal frequency' and in 'imaginary part of horizontal frequency'. Distortion calculation of original image with stego image is shown in table 2 and table 3 respectively. Payload may be enhanced by embedding three or four bits per byte in real or imaginary bands, to achieve 0.7 and 1.0 bpB, results are shown in table 4 to table 7 respectively. Table 8 shows the overall comparison between varies bands used for embedding, with different payloads.

#### 2.6.1 Insertion

Bits are inserted based on a hash function where embedding position in frequency components of cover image are selected using formula ((Column + 't') % 'P') where 't' is number of bits per Byte and 'P' is last position level from LSB towards MSB. For example, if the 'real part of vertical frequency' representing values as shown in figure 6, with 8 bit representation and 32bits of information as bits stream S# = "10011001, 11100101, 10011101, 11001101". Data is hidden in varying positions selected by hash function up to LSB+3 (P = 3) for payload of 0.5 bpB as given in figure 7, where bold bits are embedded information. While increasing the payload the same hash function may be used with different value for 't' and 'P', such as for payload of 0.7bpB value for 't' and 'P' become 3, and the value of 't' and 'P' taken as 4 in case of 1.0 bpB of payload.

| 65 | 78 | 73 | 30 | 01000001 | 01001110 | 01001001 | 00011110 |
|----|----|----|----|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 58 | 78 | 38 | 32 | 00111010 | 01001110 | 00100110 | 00100000 |
| 56 | 73 | 56 | 35 | 00111000 | 01001001 | 00111000 | 00100011 |
| 59 | 70 | 52 | 39 | 00111011 | 01000110 | 00110100 | 00100111 |

Figure. 6. Frequency coefficients/binary values of 'real part of vertical frequency' sub-band

|                  |                   |                   |                           | - |    |    |    |    |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---|----|----|----|----|
| 010000 <b>01</b> | 01001 <b>10</b> 0 | 0100 <b>01</b> 01 | 0001 <b>0</b> 11 <b>1</b> |   | 65 | 76 | 69 | 23 |
| 001110 <b>11</b> | 01001 <b>01</b> 0 | 0010 <b>10</b> 10 | 0010 <b>0</b> 00 <b>1</b> |   | 59 | 74 | 42 | 33 |
| 001110 <b>01</b> | 01001 <b>10</b> 1 | 0011 <b>11</b> 00 | 0010 <b>0</b> 01 <b>1</b> |   | 57 | 77 | 60 | 35 |
| 001110 <b>11</b> | 01000 <b>00</b> 0 | 0011 <b>11</b> 00 | 0010 <b>0</b> 11 <b>1</b> |   | 59 | 64 | 60 | 39 |

Figure. 7. Embedded frequency components matrix after embedding S# The extraction technique is just the reverse of insertion.

# **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

Benchmark (.pgm) images [6] are taken and applied on IAZT to formulate results. The result on ten gray scale images where representation is made-up of eight bit pixel and of dimension 512 x 512 is shown in figure 8 with secret coin of various dimensions. IAZT allow only four subbands [16], out of eight, to regenerate lossless image at destination with ideal outcome, that mean MSE zero and that of PSNR is infinity. This minimizes the energy and the bandwidth near to half.

As stated in section 2.1, on applying forward transformation in Z – domain four complex frequency coefficients are generated in the form of a + j b. On segregating real and imaginary part of forward Z transformation eight component/bands generate as shown in figure 9.b and 9.c. Out of which only four are selected to transmit over network for destination after inverse transformation. The pictorial representation of the whole process is given in figure 9.



Figure. 8. Cover image of 512 x 512 dimension with secret coin image

Thus for hiding invisible watermark through IAZT maximum four bands are available as shown in figure (9.d). The overall statistical calculation between figure (9.a) and figure (9.f) such as MSE, PSNR, IF [7], UQI and SSIM [17] are calculated to know the degradation in stego-image after inverse transformation due to embedding is given in section 3.1 to 3.5. A comparative study has also been made between various existing techniques and IAZT discussed in section 3.6.

| a. Original<br>Baboon | b. Real Part<br>Baboon | c. Imaginary<br>Part Baboon | d. Minimum four<br>subbands of<br>Baboon   | e. four bands<br>after<br>embedding | f. Stego-Image |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                       |                        |                             | ا <b>ب</b> و<br>العد<br>العد العد ال   | ي<br>بو                             |                |
| a. Original<br>Boat   | b. Real Part<br>Boat   | c. Imaginary<br>Part Boat   | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Boat  | e. four bands<br>after embedding    | f. Stego-Image |
|                       |                        |                             |  |                                     |                |
| a. Original<br>Clock  | b. Real Part<br>Clock  | c. Imaginary<br>Part Clock  | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Clock   | e. four bands<br>after<br>embedding | f. Stego-Image |
|                       |                        |                             | 1997.<br>1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - | 100 AT                              |                |
| a. Original<br>Couple | b. Real Part<br>Couple | c. Imaginary<br>Part Couple | d. Minimum four<br>subbands for<br>Couple  | e. four bands<br>after embedding    | f. Stego-Image |
|                       |                        |                             | s •3*  | · · 3                               |                |
| a. Original<br>Elaine | b. Real Part<br>Elaine | c. Imaginary<br>Part Elaine | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Elaine  | e. four bands<br>after embedding    | f. Stego-Image |
| 187                   | 1997                   | 1397<br>1897                | • <b>i.</b> .<br>Sr. i.  | er de la                            | 181            |
| a. Original Jet       | b. Real Part Jet       | c. Imaginary<br>Part Jet    | d. Minimum four subbands for Jet   | e. four bands<br>after embedding    | f. Stego-Image |

| a. Original<br>Space | b. Real Part<br>Space | c. Imaginary<br>Part Space | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Space | e. four bands<br>after embedding    | f. Stego-Image |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|
|                      |                       |                            |  |                                     |                |
| a. Original<br>Tank  | b. Real Part<br>Tank  | c. Imaginary<br>Part Tank  | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Tank  | e. four bands after embedding       | f. Stego-Image |
| L.                   | 1-6-<br>6-6-          |                            |  |                                     | JL.            |
| a. Original<br>Truck | b. Real Part<br>Truck | c. Imaginary<br>Part Truck | d. Minimum<br>four subbands<br>for Truck | e. four bands<br>after<br>embedding | f. Stego-Image |

Figure. 9. Original image with its threshold image representing frequency coefficients after FZT, minimum band representation, bands after embedding and stego image after inverse Z-transform

Table 1. Statistical analysis on embedding 128 x 128 dimention secret image in vertical subband/ 'Real part of VF' band, Payload 0.5 bpB.

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR( <i>dB</i> ) | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Baboon                   | 0.502270  | 51.121433         | 0.999973  | 0.999904  | 0.999905  |
| Boat                     | 3.204308  | 43.073462         | 0.999831  | 0.999292  | 0.999302  |
| Clock                    | 0.459827  | 51.504855         | 0.999988  | 0.999948  | 0.999949  |
| Couple                   | 0.446041  | 51.637055         | 0.999973  | 0.999876  | 0.999878  |
| Elaine                   | 0.447857  | 51.619411         | 0.999978  | 0.999923  | 0.999924  |
| Jet                      | 0.457809  | 51.523956         | 0.999985  | 0.999661  | 0.999680  |
| Map                      | 0.446541  | 51.632192         | 0.999987  | 0.999899  | 0.999901  |
| Space                    | 0.446934  | 51.628372         | 0.999974  | 0.999787  | 0.999795  |
| Tank                     | 0.449867  | 51.599960         | 0.999975  | 0.999784  | 0.999792  |
| Truck                    | 0.451534  | 51.583896         | 0.999963  | 0.999781  | 0.999789  |
| Average                  | 0.7312988 | 50.6924592        | 0.9999627 | 0.9997855 | 0.9997915 |

| Cover Image | MSE       | DSND( <i>AD</i> )                      | IF       | UOI       | SSIM     |  |
|-------------|-----------|--|----------|-----------|----------|--|
| 512 x 512   | MBL       | $\mathbf{FSINK}(\mathbf{u}\mathbf{D})$ | IF       | UQI       | 551141   |  |
| Baboon      | 0.396255  | 52.151051                              | 0.999979 | 0.999898  | 0.999899 |  |
| Boat        | 0.405952  | 52.046052                              | 0.999979 | 0.999910  | 0.999911 |  |
| Clock       | 0.479259  | 51.325096                              | 0.999987 | 0.999928  | 0.999929 |  |
| Couple      | 0.404308  | 52.063677                              | 0.999975 | 0.999848  | 0.999851 |  |
| Elaine      | 0.404396  | 52.062734                              | 0.999981 | 0.999908  | 0.999909 |  |
| Jet         | 0.471886  | 51.392436                              | 0.999985 | 0.999534  | 0.999561 |  |
| Map         | 0.471886  | 51.392436                              | 0.999985 | 0.999534  | 0.999561 |  |
| Space       | 0.415325  | 51.946921                              | 0.999976 | 0.999730  | 0.999740 |  |
| Tank        | 0.412228  | 51.979433                              | 0.999977 | 0.999730  | 0.999740 |  |
| Truck       | 0.413258  | 51.968595                              | 0.999966 | 0.999729  | 0.999739 |  |
| Average     | 0.4274753 | 51.8328431                             | 0.999979 | 0.9997749 | 0.999784 |  |

Table 2. Statistical analysis on embedding 128 x 128 dimention secret image in horizontal subband/ 'Realpart of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 0.5 bpB.

Table 3. Statistical analysis on embedding 128 x 128 dimention secret image in diagonal subband/ 'Imaginary part of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 0.5 bpB.

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR( <i>dB</i> ) | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Baboon                   | 0.396385  | 52.149629         | 0.999979  | 0.999898  | 0.999899  |
| Boat                     | 0.400246  | 52.107537         | 0.999979  | 0.999911  | 0.999912  |
| Clock                    | 0.455513  | 51.545796         | 0.999988  | 0.999932  | 0.999932  |
| Couple                   | 0.402924  | 52.078577         | 0.999975  | 0.999848  | 0.999852  |
| Elaine                   | 0.402523  | 52.082896         | 0.999981  | 0.999908  | 0.999910  |
| Jet                      | 0.474091  | 51.372190         | 0.999985  | 0.999532  | 0.999559  |
| Map                      | 0.404316  | 52.063595         | 0.999988  | 0.999875  | 0.999877  |
| Space                    | 0.409069  | 52.012837         | 0.999976  | 0.999734  | 0.999744  |
| Tank                     | 0.414387  | 51.956745         | 0.999977  | 0.999728  | 0.999739  |
| Truck                    | 0.416115  | 51.938672         | 0.999966  | 0.999727  | 0.999737  |
| Average                  | 0.4175569 | 51.9308474        | 0.9999794 | 0.9998093 | 0.9998161 |

Table 4. Statistical analysis on embedding 151 x 152 dimention secret image in horizontal subband/'Realpart of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 0.7 bpB.

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE      | PSNR( <i>dB</i> ) | IF       | UQI      | SSIM     |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Baboon                   | 1.378391 | 46.737078         | 0.999926 | 0.999634 | 0.999640 |
| Boat                     | 1.448845 | 46.520585         | 0.999924 | 0.999670 | 0.999675 |
| Clock                    | 2.138859 | 44.828982         | 0.999943 | 0.999670 | 0.999673 |
| Couple                   | 1.532902 | 46.275660         | 0.999906 | 0.999408 | 0.999421 |
| Elaine                   | 1.455166 | 46.501679         | 0.999930 | 0.999660 | 0.999665 |
| Jet                      | 1.721626 | 45.771415         | 0.999945 | 0.998259 | 0.998357 |
| Map                      | 1.497513 | 46.377098         | 0.999956 | 0.999523 | 0.999532 |

| Cover Image 512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR( <i>dB</i> ) | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Space                 | 1.620136  | 46.035288         | 0.999905  | 0.998916  | 0.998957  |
| Tank                  | 1.457527  | 46.494637         | 0.999920  | 0.999016  | 0.999053  |
| Truck                 | 1.473133  | 46.448384         | 0.999879  | 0.999006  | 0.999044  |
| Average               | 1.5724098 | 46.1990806        | 0.9999234 | 0.9992762 | 0.9993017 |

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Table 5. Statistical analysis on embedding 151 x 152 dimention secret image in diagonal subband/'Imaginary part of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 0.7 bpB.

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR       | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Baboon                   | 1.382816  | 46.723159  | 0.999926  | 0.999633  | 0.999639  |
| Boat                     | 1.438732  | 46.551004  | 0.999924  | 0.999673  | 0.999677  |
| Clock                    | 2.067417  | 44.976522  | 0.999945  | 0.999681  | 0.999684  |
| Couple                   | 1.538448  | 46.259974  | 0.999905  | 0.999406  | 0.999419  |
| Elaine                   | 1.449154  | 46.519659  | 0.999930  | 0.999661  | 0.999666  |
| Jet                      | 1.713501  | 45.791960  | 0.999945  | 0.998267  | 0.998365  |
| Map                      | 1.490669  | 46.396991  | 0.999956  | 0.999526  | 0.999534  |
| Space                    | 1.526279  | 46.294463  | 0.999911  | 0.998979  | 0.999018  |
| Tank                     | 1.460400  | 46.486086  | 0.999920  | 0.999014  | 0.999052  |
| Truck                    | 1.480503  | 46.426710  | 0.999879  | 0.999001  | 0.999039  |
| Average                  | 1.5547919 | 46.2426528 | 0.9999241 | 0.9992841 | 0.9993093 |

Table 6. Statistical analysis on embedding 181 x 181 dimention secret image in horizontal subband/'Realpart of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 1.0bpB.

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR       | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Baboon                   | 6.068684  | 40.299859  | 0.999673  | 0.998384  | 0.998409  |
| Boat                     | 6.856552  | 39.769746  | 0.999639  | 0.998433  | 0.998454  |
| Clock                    | 10.708042 | 37.833703  | 0.999717  | 0.998343  | 0.998358  |
| Couple                   | 7.724094  | 39.252328  | 0.999525  | 0.997007  | 0.997073  |
| Elaine                   | 6.661247  | 39.895248  | 0.999678  | 0.998437  | 0.998458  |
| Jet                      | 9.097958  | 38.541365  | 0.999709  | 0.990827  | 0.991339  |
| Map                      | 7.105892  | 39.614617  | 0.999792  | 0.997730  | 0.997772  |
| Space                    | 8.718529  | 38.726372  | 0.999489  | 0.994164  | 0.994385  |
| Tank                     | 6.680252  | 39.882875  | 0.999634  | 0.995477  | 0.995649  |
| Truck                    | 6.877502  | 39.756496  | 0.999436  | 0.995347  | 0.995524  |
| Average                  | 7.6498752 | 39.3572609 | 0.9996292 | 0.9964149 | 0.9965421 |

| Cover Image<br>512 x 512 | MSE       | PSNR       | IF        | UQI       | SSIM      |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Baboon                   | 6.099918  | 40.277563  | 0.999672  | 0.998376  | 0.998401  |
| Boat                     | 6.778450  | 39.819500  | 0.999643  | 0.998451  | 0.998471  |
| Clock                    | 10.442543 | 37.942741  | 0.999724  | 0.998384  | 0.998398  |
| Couple                   | 7.720406  | 39.254402  | 0.999526  | 0.997008  | 0.997075  |
| Elaine                   | 6.601910  | 39.934108  | 0.999681  | 0.998450  | 0.998471  |
| Jet                      | 9.111351  | 38.534976  | 0.999708  | 0.990814  | 0.991326  |
| Map                      | 7.102764  | 39.616530  | 0.999792  | 0.997732  | 0.997773  |
| Space                    | 8.015533  | 39.091479  | 0.999530  | 0.994632  | 0.994835  |
| Tank                     | 6.672466  | 39.887940  | 0.999635  | 0.995482  | 0.995654  |
| Truck                    | 6.873344  | 39.759123  | 0.999437  | 0.995350  | 0.995527  |
| Average                  | 7.5418685 | 39.4118362 | 0.9996348 | 0.9964679 | 0.9965931 |

Table 7. Statistical analysis on embedding 181 x 181 dimention secret image in horizontal subband/'Imaginary part of HF' band from four minimum bands, Payload 1.0bpB.

Table 8. Summay table of analysis based on different bands used for embedding with various Payload.

| Coloulo     | Real part of | Real part of | Imaginary  | Real part of | Imaginary  | Real part of | Imaginary  |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Calcula-    | VF           | HF           | part of HF | HF           | Part of HF | HF           | part of HF |
| tion        | (0.5bpB)     | (0.5bpB)     | (0.5bpB)   | (0.7bpB)     | (0.7 bpB)  | (1.0bpB)     | (1.0bpB)   |
| MSE         | 0.7312988    | 0.4274753    | 0.4175569  | 1.5724098    | 1.5547919  | 7.6498752    | 7.5418685  |
| <b>PSNR</b> | 50.692459    | 51.832843    | 51.930847  | 46.199081    | 46.242653  | 39.357261    | 39.411836  |
| IF          | 0.9999627    | 0.999979     | 0.9999794  | 0.9999234    | 0.9999241  | 0.9996292    | 0.9996348  |
| UQI         | 0.9997855    | 0.9997749    | 0.9998093  | 0.9992762    | 0.9992841  | 0.9964149    | 0.9964679  |
| SSIM        | 0.9997915    | 0.999784     | 0.9998161  | 0.9993017    | 0.9993093  | 0.9965421    | 0.9965931  |

#### **3.1. Error Rate (MSE)**

In statistics, the mean square error or MSE [7, 17] of an estimator is one of the many ways to quantify the difference between an estimator and the true value of the quantity being estimated. The MSE represents the cumulative squared error between the embedded and the original image, the lower the value of MSE, the lower the error. In IAZT technique MSE increases with the increase in payload and with the real value coefficients toward vertical frequency. Figure 10 represent the impact on error with different bands embedded with secret information with varying payload.

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Figure. 10. Graphical representation of impact on MSE with varying bands and payload

#### 3.2. Peak Signal to Noise Ratio (PSNR)

The peak signal-to-noise ratio, often abbreviated PSNR [7, 17], is the ratio between the maximum possible power of a signal and the power of corrupting noise that affects the fidelity of its representation PSNR is usually expressed in terms of the logarithmic decibel scale. In IAZT technique PSNR decreases with increase in payload and it also decreases while selecting bands of real value towards vertical coefficient for embedding. Figure 11 represent the impact on PSNR in dB with different bands embedded with secret information with varying payload.



Figure. 11. Graphical representation of impact on PSNR in dB with varying bands and payload

#### 3.3. Image fidelity (IF)

Image fidelity [7] is a parametric computation to quantify the perfectness of human visual perception. In IAZT technique IF also decreases with increase in payload and it also decreases while selecting bands of real value towards vertical coefficient for embedding. Figure 12 represent the impact on image fidelity with different bands embedded with secret information with varying payload.



Figure. 12. Graphical representation of impact on Image fidelity with varying bands and payload

## 3.4. Universal Quality Image (UQI)

UQI [17] is a method to model any image distortion via a combination of three factors: loss of correlation, luminance distortion, and contrast distortion. In IAZT technique UQI index also decreases with increase in payload and it also decreases while selecting bands of real value towards vertical frequency coefficients for embedding. Figure 13 represent the impact on UQI with different bands embedded with secret information with varying payload.



Figure. 13. Graphical representation of impact on Universal Quality Image index with varying bands and payload

#### 3.5. Structural Similarity Index Measurement (SSIM)

Structural similarity can be obtained by comparing local patterns of pixel intensities that have been normalized for luminance and contrast. Calculation of SSIM depends on the separate calculation of luminance, contrast and structure. In IAZT SSIM also behave same as of IF or UQI. Figure 14 represent the impact on SSIM with different bands embedded with secret bits of information with varying payload.



Figure. 14. Graphical representation of impact on Structural Similarity Index Measurement with varying bands and payload

# 3.6. Comparison of IAZT with Existing Techniques

A comparative study has been made between Li method [11], SCDFT [13], Region–Based [14], IAHTSSDCT[10], AWTDHDS[12] and SADT [15] in terms of mean square error, peak signal to noise ratio and payload (bits per Byte). Comparison is done on average of ten PGM images of figure 8, and the computation is given in table 9.

For the payload 0.5 bpB IAZT technique achieved 51.93 dB of PSNR, graphical representation of the comparison is given in figure 15.a. For 0.7 bpB PSNR become 46.24 and for 1.0bpB PSNR comes down to 39.4 shown in figure 15.b. The value obtained for PSNR in IZAT for 1.0 bpB of payload is almost optimum as compared to all other technique graphically represented in figure 15.c.

| Technique                  | Capacity<br>(bytes) | Size of cover<br>image | bpB (Bits<br>per bytes) | PSNR in<br>dB |
|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Yuancheng Li's Method [11] | 1089                | 257 * 257              | 0.13                    | 28.68         |
| SCDFT [13]                 | 3840                | 512 * 512              | 0.12                    | 30.10         |
| SADCT [9]                  | 8192                | 512 * 512              | 0.08                    | 56.63         |
| Region-Based [14]          | 16384               | 512 * 512              | 0.5                     | 40.79         |
| IAHTSSDCT [10]             | 16384               | 512 * 512              | 0.5                     | 47.48         |
| AWTDHDS [12]               | 16384               | 512 * 512              | 0.5                     | 44.87         |
| SAWT [8]                   | 131072              | 512 * 512              | 1.3                     | 36.62         |
| SADT [15]                  | 16384               | 512 * 512              | 0.5                     | 49.69         |
| SADT [15]                  | 32768               | 512 * 512              | 1.0                     | 46.36         |
| IAZT                       | 16384               | 512 * 512              | 0.5                     | 51.93         |
| IAZT                       | 22952               | 512 * 512              | 0.7                     | 46.24         |
| IAZT                       | 32761               | 512 * 512              | 1.0                     | 39.41         |

Table 9. Comparison of IAZT with existing techniques



(b) Graphical representation of IAZT with existing technique on embedding 1.0 bpB of payload



(c) Graphical representation of IAZT with existing technique for all the variations

Figure. 15. Graphical representation of comparison of IAZT with existing techniques

# 4. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper IAZT, the issue of image coding with minimum calculation and less complexity with invisible watermarking is achieved. IAZT also emphasis the subband minimization technique, out of eight subbands only four is enough to regenerate the image without loss this lower the energy consumption and the bandwidth too. And with the minimized four subband secret message may also be transmitted with nominal distortion in terms of fidelity and PSNR. On comparison with other standard techniques, it is observed that the proposed IAZT shows optimum performance.

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![](_page_19_Picture_10.jpeg)

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