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Abstract

The importance of image security in the field of medical imaging is challenging. Several research works have been conducted to secure medical healthcare images. Encryption, not risking loss of data, is the right solution for image confidentiality. Due to data size limitations, redundancy, and capacity, traditional encryption techniques cannot be applied directly to e-health data, especially when patient data are transferred over the open channels. Therefore, patients may lose the privacy of data contents since images are different from the text because of their two particular factors of loss of data and confidentiality. Researchers have identified such security threats and have proposed several image encryption techniques to mitigate the security problem. However, the study has found that the existing proposed techniques still face application-specific several security problems. Therefore, this paper presents an efficient, lightweight encryption algorithm to develop a secure image encryption technique for the healthcare industry. The proposed lightweight encryption technique employs two permutation techniques to secure medical images. The proposed technique is analyzed, evaluated, and then compared to conventionally encrypted ones in security and execution time. Numerous test images have been used to determine the performance of the proposed algorithm. Several experiments show that the proposed algorithm for image cryptosystems provides better efficiency than conventional techniques. © 2013 IEEE.

Author Keywords

Internet of Medical Things; lightweight encryption; medical image encryption

Index Keywords

Health care, Hospital data processing, Image enhancement, Medical image processing, Privacy by design; Application specific, Conventional techniques, Encryption technique, Healthcare industry, Image encryptions, Lightweight encryption, Medical image security, Permutation technique; Cryptography

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