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JPEG Encryption for Image Rescaling in the Encrypted Domain

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Abstract: This work proposes a novel protocol of encrypting the JPEG image suitable for image rescaling in the

encrypted domain. To protect the privacy of original content, the image owner perturbs the texture and

randomizes the structure of the JPEG image by enciphering the quantized Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT)

coefficients. After receiving the encrypted JPEG image, the service provider generates a rescaled JPEG image by

down-sampling the encrypted DCT coefficients. On the recipient side, the encrypted JPEG image rescaled by the

service provider can be decrypted to a plaintext image with a lower resolution with the aid of encryption keys.

Experimental results show that the proposed method has a good capability of rescaling the privacy-protected

JPEG file.

Keywords: signal processing, encrypted domain, image rescaling

1. Introduction

Signal processing in encrypted domain (SPED) has attracted much attention in recent years. The need for

SPED technologies originates from a growing social awareness and relevance of security and privacy [1][2]. For

example, people are increasingly sharing diversity of personal data on the Internet, or doing many works over

cloud computing or delegated calculation. SPED, thus, was proposed to accomplish signal processing at the

potentially untrusted sites in a privacy-protected form, without or minimally leaking information [3]. Some

works have been done on SPED, such as differential-privacy based sanitizing [3-5], the buyer-seller

watermarking protocol [6-9], compression of the encrypted images or videos [10-13], reversible data-hiding in

encrypted images [14-18], and so on [19]. While most SPED algorithms are useful for never-compressed images,

few SPED methods are suitable for JPEG, which is the most widely used format.

In some applications, the service provider hopes to reduce the data amount during the transmission, or tends to

supply the recipient an encrypted image with a lower resolution. For example, in a dealing system, the seller

1

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