

Methods for Decoding Informational Codes of Cryptocompression Codegrams to Improve Information Security

Vladimir Barannik^a, Serhii Sidchenko^b, Natalia Barannik^a, Dmitriy Barannik^c, and Sergii Shulgin^c

^a V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, 4 Svobody sq., Kharkiv, 61022, Ukraine

^b Ivan Kozhedub Kharkiv National Air Force University, 77/79 Sumskaya str., Kharkiv, 61023, Ukraine

^c Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics, 14 Nauky ave., Kharkiv, 61166, Ukraine

Abstract

The analysis of the main threats (risks) to information security in video surveillance and video conferencing systems. Ensuring information security of video data (static and dynamic) resources should be organized with the preservation of the specified quality while maintaining the specified availability. The article develops methods for decoding information codegrams of images formed on the basis of floating coding schemes with a decrease in the original volume of video data. Decoding methods have six main steps. At the first stage, the restoration of the service components of cryptocompression codegrams, presented in encrypted form, is carried out. In the second step, the number of elements that will be reconstructed from the corresponding information code is determined. At the third stage, the information code is extracted from the general code stream of the information component. At the fourth stage, the decoding of the information component code is organized. Then the third and fourth stages are repeated until all codes of the information component are completely decoded. At the fifth and sixth stages, the restoration of image segments and the reconstruction of the image based on them are organized. Without knowing the correct base system, the attacker cannot correctly establish a correspondence between the generated codegrams and the number of elements involved in their formation, and also cannot correctly position uneven codegrams in the general code stream. As a result, the attacker cannot decode the image correctly. Due to the additional use of uncertainty, an increase in the level of cryptographic resistance of the generated codegrams is achieved. Images are reconstructed without loss of quality, that is, bit by bit. In the process of cryptocompression coding, in addition to ensuring information security, a decrease in the volume of cryptocompression image representation is achieved, which ensures an increase in their availability.

Keywords

Cryptocompression image representation, information security, information security, encryption, encoding, image compression, confidentiality, floating circuits, differentiated basis.

1. Introduction

Threats (risks) associated with the compromise of video surveillance and video conferencing systems, from the point of view of reflexive control, enable an attacker (the opposing side) to be one rank of reflection higher. The main threats to security breaches include:

1. intercepting a signal from CCTV cameras or obtaining the possibility of direct information retrieval from them by an attacker, which will enable him to conduct reconnaissance without using his means.

Cybersecurity Providing in Information and Telecommunication Systems, January 28, 2021, Kyiv, Ukraine

EMAIL: vvbar.off@gmail.com (A.1); sidserg72@gmail.com (B.2); barannik11121972@gmail.com (A.3); d.v.barannik@gmail.com (C.4); sssh.sergey@gmail.com (C.5)

ORCID: 0000-0002-2848-4524 (A.1); 0000-0002-1319-6263 (B.2); 0000-0001-9098-360X (A.3); 0000-0003-4235-300X (C.4); 0000-0001-5174-290X (C.5)



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CEUR Workshop Proceedings (CEUR-WS.org)

2. Substitution of a true signal from CCTV cameras for a false one, which can contribute to the introduction of inaccurate information, misleading the decision-maker, and making an erroneous decision.

3. Unauthorized activation (gaining access) of video conferencing facilities, which will enable the enemy to use them for intelligence purposes.

4. Intercepting a video signal in a video conferencing system or gaining access to equipment, which contributes to the disclosure of the confidentiality of negotiations, and due to the fact that the information circulating in crisis management systems, in aggregate, can take the characteristics of information with limited access, this can lead to leakage critical information.

5. Suppression of signals from video surveillance systems and video conferencing, which can lead to a complete or partial loss of video information and/or delays in its transmission.

Illegal disclosure (interception) of video information transmitted through transmission channels or stored in video recording equipment and databases can lead to a large number of threats to the security of an object (person, enterprise, structure, system, state, etc.), including:

- Violation of individual rights and freedoms.
- Disclosure of personal data, including medical secrets.
- Disclosure of bank secrets and commercial secrets of the enterprise.
- Disclosure of the secrets of the investigation and legal proceedings, as well as the results of operational-search activities.
- Opening the patrol system and/or the location at a given time of patrol detachments (on foot and by road) of the National Police and the National Guard of Ukraine, which is critical in crises and, especially, in the areas of the operation of the combined forces (anti-terrorist operation).
- The transfer of the commission of offenses to other places not equipped with open video cameras, and, therefore, efforts aimed at reducing the level of offenses will lead to a change in the place, method, and time of the offense.
- Opening of routes (system) of movement and/or location at a given time of mobile (operational-search) groups, as well as columns and individual samples of weapons, special and military equipment.
- Disclosure of information about cargo transportation (including their location at a given time) by road, sea (river), rail, and air transport for the needs of the security and defense sector of the state, as well as critical (important) infrastructure of the state (region).
- Opening the security system of the critical (important) infrastructure of the state (region) and protected objects of different property rights, as well as opening the state of the protected object at a given moment in time.
- Opening of border and customs control systems, their weak points, and state at the current time.
- Opening the grouping of their troops, elements of the battle order, the system of protection and defense of checkpoints (positions, areas, borders), as well as the composition of forces and means allocated for these events and/or located in places of permanent deployment.
- Compromise (disclosure, interception by the enemy) of intelligence received by means of special reconnaissance and video surveillance, which can contribute to a change in the deployment of enemy forces, the substitution of false targets and demonstration of false intentions, as well as a change in their designs and plans.
- Compromising the work of monitoring missions and disclosing information to the opposing side (group), etc.

There are various approaches to ensuring information security of images, which are organized both for the original (pre-compressed) images and images presented in the compressed form [1–42]. They include:

- Cryptographic protection methods are based on data encryption [1–16].
- Cryptographic methods of protection are based on scrambling for reversible distortion of images or their critical areas [1, 5–9, 17–24].
- Methods of steganography image processing to ensure the safety of both embedded data and video data itself [25–36].
- Secret sharing technology to ensure the security of one or more images [1, 37–41].
- Methods that implement access rights management and privacy policies [1, 8].

- Transformations that remove critical areas in images [1].
- Geometrically reversible image distortion [42].

They are characterized by the following problematic disadvantages:

- Ensuring the confidentiality of video data without using compression technologies leads to a significant decrease in its availability.
- Ensuring the confidentiality of images using compression technologies after and/or between the stages of the data compression process is based on the separation of the encryption and compression functionality. This also leads to a decrease in the availability of video data.

In the process of ensuring the information security of video data, it is necessary to solve a significant problem related to the fact that it must be organized with the preservation of given image quality while maintaining a given availability.

To solve this problem in [43, 44], approaches to cryptocompression coding of images are presented, which ensure the integration of compression and encryption technologies, which allow solving the identified problem. However, the processes of decoding the codegrams of the cryptocompression representation of images are not considered.

Therefore, the purpose of the article is to develop methods for error-free decoding of information components of the cryptocompression representation of images generated on the basis of floating coding schemes.

2. Main Part

The codegram of the cryptocompression representation of the image consists of two components:

- Information component, which consists of code sequences N variable length and formed as a result of convolution of values of a variable number of elements of the original image A and service data systems S rule-based $f(\cdot)$:

$$N = f(A; S);$$

- A set of service components that depend on the selected coding scheme. Thus, the scheme of cryptocompression coding in the basis along the upper bounds as service data assumes the presence of the base system $G^{(m)} = \{g_i\}$. Scheme of cryptocompression coding in a differentiated basis except for the base system $G^{(m)} = \{g_i\}$ requires a system of lowering dynamic range values $Z^{(m)} = \{z_i\}$.

The service data system in the cryptocompression representation is encrypted S_c and requires preliminary decryption using a cryptographic transformation $D(\cdot)$ on the key of transformation K :

$$S = D_K(S_c),$$

where S is decoded representation of the radix system.

If to perform direct $E(\cdot)$ and vice versa $D(\cdot)$ the cryptographic conversion used an authentic conversion key K (the same session key for symmetric systems or a secret and corresponding public conversion key for asymmetric encryption systems), as well as encrypted data S_c have not been deliberately or erroneously modified, then the decrypted data S will be identical to the original cryptocompression representation service components S bit to bit, i.e. $S = S$:

$$S = D_K(S_c), \text{ i.e. } S = D_K(E_K(S)).$$

The generalized scheme for decoding the floating scheme of the cryptocompression image representation is shown in Fig. 1. The decoding process of the information component of the cryptocompression representation is organized in the reverse order with respect to the encoding process and has its characteristics depending on the selected scheme.

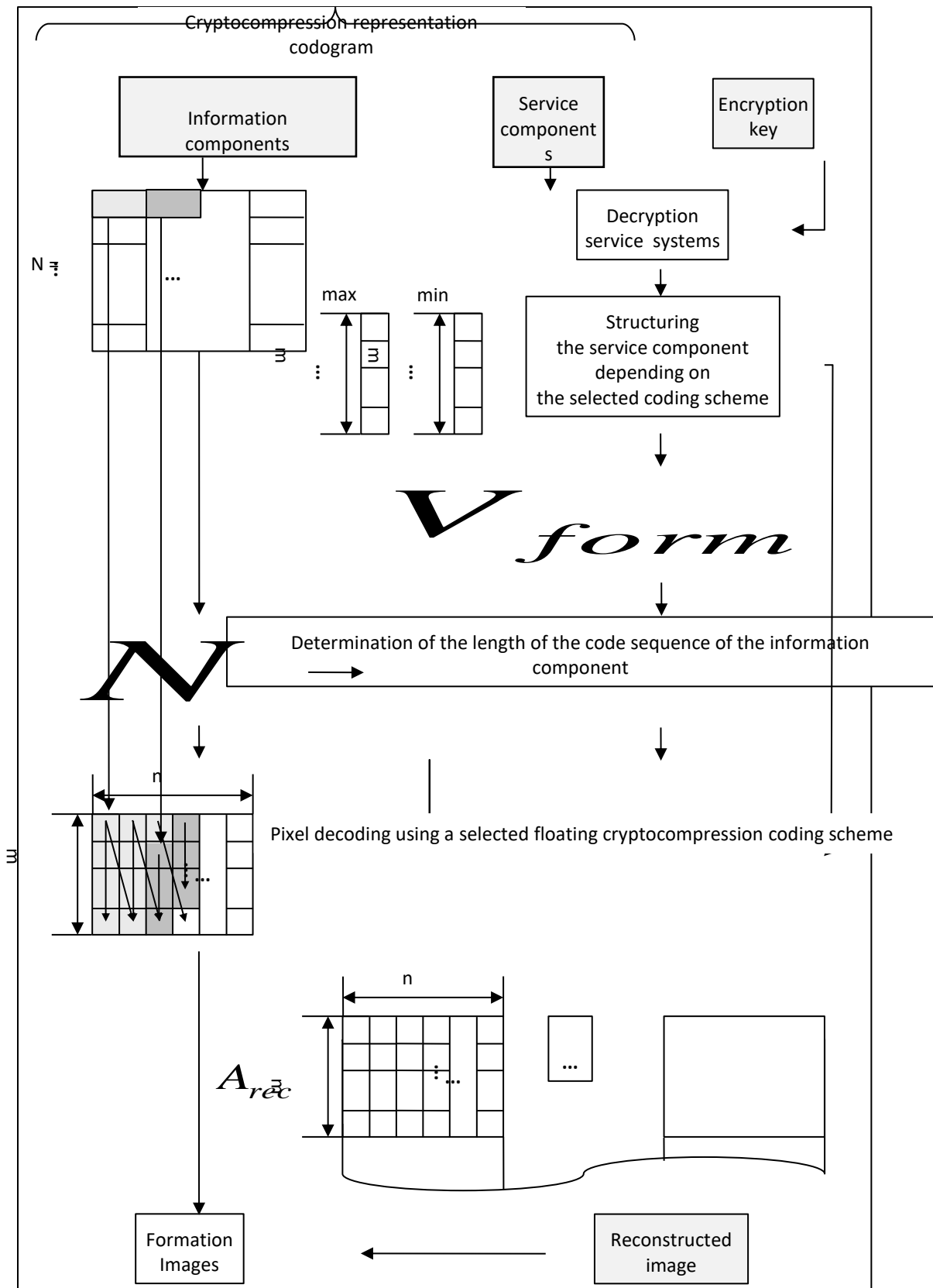


Figure 1: Generalized scheme for decoding the floating scheme of cryptocompression representation of images

Let us consider the features of the process of decoding the information component of the cryptocompression representation for floating coding schemes in the basis along with the upper bounds and the differentiated basis.

The process of decoding the information component of the cryptocompression representation of images based on a floating coding scheme in the basis along the upper boundaries is organized on the basis of performing the following steps.

Stage 1. Expansion of the service component of the cryptocompression representation $G^{(m)} = \{g_i\}$, $i = \overline{1, m}$, up to the power of the original image fragment in a one-dimensional vector form $S^{(m \times n)} = \{s_\tau\}$ based on the formula:

$$S^{(m \times n)} = \{s_\tau\} = \left\{ g_{\tau-m \lfloor \frac{\tau-1}{m} \rfloor} \right\}, \tau = \overline{1, mn}, \quad (1)$$

where τ is the linear coordinate of the element; m is the number of lines in the image segment into which the original image was split during the encoding process; n is the number of columns in the image segment; $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$ is the whole part.

Stage 2. From the analysis of the service component of the cryptocompression representation $S = \{s_\tau\}$ the number of elements is determined V_{form} , on the basis of which the code values, were generated N information component of the cryptocompression representation. To do this, use the formula:

$$V_{\text{form}} = \operatorname{argmax}_V \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^V s_\xi \right) = \operatorname{argmax}_V \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^V g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor} \right)$$

given that

$$\prod_{\xi=1}^V s_\xi = \prod_{\xi=1}^V g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor} \leq 2^M - 1,$$

where V is a floating number of elements of the service component participating in the formation of the code of the information part of the cryptocompression representation based on the floating scheme, taking into account the check for overflow of the code word; ξ is the linear coordinate of service data; $(2^M - 1)$ is the largest number that can be stored in a codeword of length M elements.

Stage 3. Determination of the length of the code sequence N information component is carried out on the basis of service component elements $S = \{s_\tau\}$ taking into account the number of elements V_{form} images that formed the information component using the formula:

$$Q_N = \lceil \log_2 \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^{V_{\text{form}}} s_\xi \right) \rceil + 1 = \lceil \log_2 \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^{V_{\text{form}}} g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor} \right) \rceil + 1.$$

Reading the code sequence from the information component of the cryptocompression representation N length Q_N bit.

Stage 4. Formation of the vector of weight coefficients W whose elements W_τ ($\tau = \overline{1, Q_{\text{np}}}$) are defined as the product of the elements of the service component of the cryptocompression representation $S = \{s_\tau\}$ that are in positions following the position τ , based on the formula:

$$W_\tau = \begin{cases} \prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} s_\xi = \prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor}, & \tau < V_{\text{form}} mn; \\ 1, & \tau = V_{\text{form}} mn. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Stage 5. Reconstruction of the elements of the code number $A^{(y; \chi)} = \{a_\tau^{(y; \chi)}\}$ in vector form from the code sequence N the information component of the cryptocompression representation is given by the formula:

$$a_\tau^{(y; \chi)} = \left\lfloor \frac{N}{W_\tau} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{N}{W_\tau \times s_\tau} \right\rfloor \times s_\tau, \tau = \overline{1, V_{\text{form}}}. \quad (3)$$

Stages 4 and 5 can be combined and, taking into account formulas (1) and (2), formula (3) will take the form:

$$\begin{aligned} a_\tau^{(y; \chi)} &= \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} s_\xi} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} s_\xi s_\tau} \right\rfloor \times s_\tau = \\ &= \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor}} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} g_{\xi-m \lfloor \frac{\xi-1}{m} \rfloor} g_{\tau-m \lfloor \frac{\tau-1}{m} \rfloor}} \right\rfloor \times g_{\tau-m \lfloor \frac{\tau-1}{m} \rfloor}. \end{aligned}$$

Stage 6. Reconstruction of a segment of the original image with dimensions $m \times n$ is carried out on the basis of vector transformation $A^{(\gamma; \chi)} = \{a_\tau^{(\gamma; \chi)}\}$ into a two-dimensional form based on the ratios:

$$A^{(\gamma; \chi)} = \{a_\tau^{(\gamma; \chi)}\}_{\tau=1, Q_{np}} =, i = \overline{1, m}, j = \overline{1, n}, \quad (4)$$

$$i = \begin{cases} \tau - \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor m, & \text{if } \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor < \frac{\tau}{m}; \\ m, & \text{if } \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor = \frac{\tau}{m}, \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

$$j = \begin{cases} \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor + 1, & \text{if } \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor < \frac{\tau}{m}; \\ \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor, & \text{if } \lfloor \frac{\tau}{m} \rfloor = \frac{\tau}{m}, \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where $a_{i,j}^{(\gamma; \chi)}$ is i^{th} element j^{th} column $(\gamma; \chi)^{\text{th}}$ recovered segment $A^{(\gamma; \chi)}$ images.

Step 7. Merging the reconstructed segments $A^{(\gamma; \chi)}$ into the image A . If the codegrams of the cryptocompression representation of the image have not been subjected to deliberate or unintentional modification, then the image is reconstructed accurately bit by bit, i.e. $A = A$.

If the cryptocompression representation used a floating coding scheme on a differential basis, then the restoration of image elements A from the information component of the cryptocompression representation N is carried out taking into account the decrease in dynamic ranges, provided that the service component of the cryptocompression representation consists of a system of bases (maximum values of the dynamic range) $G^{(m)} = \{g_i\}$ and the system of reducing (minimum) values of the dynamic range $Z^{(m)} = \{z_i\}$. Decoding of the information component of the cryptocompression representation is set in the following stages.

Stage 1. Preparatory actions are carried out:

- Expansion of the service component of the cryptocompression representation $G^{(m)} = \{g_i\}$ and $Z^{(m)} = \{z_i\}$, $i = \overline{1, m}$, up to the power of the original image segment in a one-dimensional vector form $S^{(m \times n)} = \{s_\tau\}$ and $R^{(m \times n)} = \{r_\tau\}$ based on formulas:

$$S^{(m \times n)} = \{s_\tau\} = \{g_{\tau - m \lfloor \frac{\tau-1}{m} \rfloor}\}, \tau = \overline{1, mn}, \quad (7)$$

$$R^{(m \times n)} = \{r_\tau\} = \{z_{\tau - m \lfloor \frac{\tau-1}{m} \rfloor}\}, \tau = \overline{1, mn}; \quad (8)$$

- Lowering the dynamic range of elements of the extended base system $S^{(m \times n)} = \{s_\tau\}$ based on the formula:

$$p_\tau = s_\tau - r_\tau, \tau = \overline{1, mn}, \quad (9)$$

where p_τ is an element of the base system in a low dynamic range.

Stage 2. From the analysis of the base system, taking into account the decrease in the dynamic range $P = \{p_\tau\}$, the number of elements is determined V_{form} , on the basis of which the informational component of the cryptocompression representation was formed, using the formula:

$$V_{\text{form}} = \operatorname{argmax}_V \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^V p_\xi \right) = \operatorname{argmax}_V \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^V (s_\xi - r_\xi) \right)$$

subject to limitation

$$\prod_{\xi=1}^V p_\xi = \prod_{\xi=1}^V (s_\xi - r_\xi) \leq 2^M - 1.$$

Stage 3. Determination of the length of the code sequence N the information component is carried out using the formula:

$$Q_N = \lceil \log_2 \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^{V_{\text{form}}} p_\xi \right) \rceil + 1 = \lceil \log_2 \left(\prod_{\xi=1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (s_\xi - r_\xi) \right) \rceil + 1.$$

Reading the code sequence from the information component of the cryptocompression representation N length Q_N bit.

Stage 4. Decoding of the code of the information component of the cryptocompression representation image in a differentiated basis is given by the formula:

$$a_\tau^{(\gamma; \chi)} = \left[\frac{N}{W_\tau} \right] - \left[\frac{N}{W_\tau \times p_\tau} \right] \times p_\tau + r_\tau, \tau = \overline{1, V_{\text{form}}} \quad (10)$$

taking into account the formation of the elements of the vector of weight coefficients W_τ based on the formula:

$$W_{\tau} = \begin{cases} \prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} p_{\xi} = \prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (s_{\xi} - r_{\xi}), & \tau < Q_{\text{np}}mn; \\ 1, & \tau = Q_{\text{np}}mn. \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

Taking into account formulas (7)–(9) and (11), formula (10) for the restoration of the segment $A^{(y; \chi)} = \{a_{\tau}^{(y; \chi)}\}$ images in vector form from the information component of the cryptocompression representation N will take the form:

$$\begin{aligned} a_{\tau}^{(y; \chi)} &= \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} p_{\xi}} \right] - \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} p_{\xi} p_{\tau}} \right] \times p_{\tau} + r_{\tau} = \\ &= \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (s_{\xi} - r_{\xi})} \right] - \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (s_{\xi} - r_{\xi}) (s_{\tau} - r_{\tau})} \right] \times (s_{\tau} - r_{\tau}) + r_{\tau} = \\ &= z_{\tau-m} \left[\frac{\tau-1}{m} \right] + \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (g_{\xi-m} \left[\frac{\xi-1}{m} \right] - z_{\xi-m} \left[\frac{\xi-1}{m} \right])} \right] - \left[\frac{N}{\prod_{\xi=\tau+1}^{V_{\text{form}}} (g_{\xi-m} \left[\frac{\xi-1}{m} \right] - z_{\xi-m} \left[\frac{\xi-1}{m} \right]) \times (g_{\tau-m} \left[\frac{\tau-1}{m} \right] - z_{\tau-m} \left[\frac{\tau-1}{m} \right])} \right] \times \\ &\quad (g_{\tau-m} \left[\frac{\tau-1}{m} \right] - z_{\tau-m} \left[\frac{\tau-1}{m} \right]). \end{aligned}$$

Stage 5. Restoration of a segment of the original image is carried out on the basis of vector transformation $A^{(y; \chi)} = \{a_{\tau}^{(y; \chi)}\}$ into a two-dimensional form based on formulas (4)–(6).

Stage 6. Merging the reconstructed segments $A^{(y; \chi)}$ into the image $A = A$.

The results of evaluating the quality of compression of images of different degrees of saturation for the developed in [43, 44], the method of cryptocompression coding of images in a differentiated basis based on deterministic and non-deterministic code formation are shown in Fig. 2. The comparison was carried out with the most commonly used image compression technologies without loss of information quality, which are implemented in the TIFF and PNG data presentation formats, which implement various combinations of RLE series length coding algorithms, LZ77 sliding window code, and LZW and Huffman prefix codes.

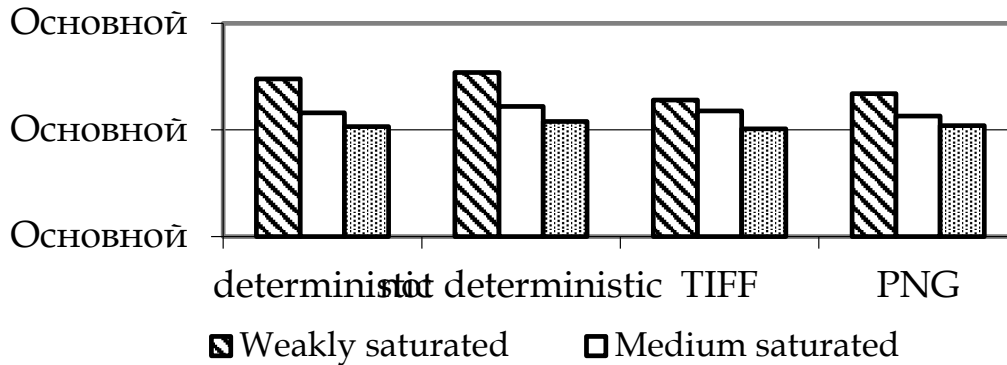


Figure 2: Results of evaluating the quality of image compression

From the analysis of the data in Fig. 6 that the best result in terms of the degree of image compression was shown by the method of cryptocompression coding of images on a differentiated basis based on non-deterministic code generation when processing video data of different degrees of saturation. The average value of the compression ratio for it is at the level of 1.08 for highly saturated images, 1.22 for moderately saturated, and 1.54 for weakly saturated images. This is on average 4–5.2% better compared to the deterministic approach, 3–20% better than the TIFF data format, and 4 * 15% better than the PNG format. Although the use of additional overhead in the method of cryptocompression image coding on a differential basis can reduce the gain by 2–3% in relation to the presentation of data in TIFF and PNG formats.

Formation of code structures of non-deterministic length:

- From the standpoint of ensuring confidentiality—provides uncertainty in the positioning of uneven codegrams in the general code stream, which eliminates the possibility of their unauthorized decryption.

- From the standpoint of ensuring accessibility—provides a decrease in the volume of cryptocompression representation of images relative to the original video data on average from 1.08 to 1.54 times, depending on the degree of their saturation.

3. Conclusion

Methods for decoding information components of cryptocompression representation of images generated on the basis of floating coding schemes have been developed, namely:

- Floating coding scheme based on the upper bounds.
- Floating coding scheme in a differential basis.

There are six main steps in decoding methods:

1. Restoration of service components of cryptocompression codegrams presented in encrypted form;
2. Determining the number of elements that will be reconstructed from the corresponding information code;
3. The selection of the information code from the general code stream of the information component;
4. Decoding the code of the information component of the cryptocompression representation;
5. Restoration of image segments;
6. The formation of a reconstructed image.

Methods for decompression of cryptocompression codegrams developed in this work allow:

- To reconstruct images from cryptocompression codegrams obtained on the basis of floating coding schemes. That is, the code constructions are formed on a non-deterministic number of elements of the original image and the base system. Formed non-deterministic length of code structures. Without knowing the correct base system, an attacker cannot correctly establish a correspondence between the generated codegrams and the number of elements involved in their formation, and he also cannot correctly position uneven codegrams in the general code stream. As a result, the attacker cannot decode the image correctly. Due to the additional use of uncertainty, an increase in the level of cryptographic resistance of the generated codegrams is achieved.

- To reconstruct the original images without losing their quality, that is bit by bit. The volume of cryptocompression representation of images relative to the original video data was, on average, reduced from 1.08 to 1.54 times, depending on the degree of their saturation. In the process of cryptocompression coding, in addition to ensuring information security, a decrease in the volume of the cryptocompression representation of the image is achieved, which ensures an increase in their availability.

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