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TRUE COLOR IMAGE ENCRYPTION BASED ON DNA SEQUENCE, 3D CHAOTIC MAP, AND KEY-DEPENDENT DNA S-BOX OF AES

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ABSTRACT

Digital image encryption techniques play crucial roles in preventing unauthorized accesss. In this study, color image encryption and decryption are performed through a technique that applies a 3D chaotic map, DNA sequence, and the key-dependent DNA S-box of the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) to get higher security. This technique comprises five steps: block transcription, encoding of DNA base, reverse/ reverse complement of DNA, use of a 3D chaotic map, and key-dependent DNA S-box of AES. In the proposed scheme, block transcription is performed to shuffle image pixels by changing their positions in the image. Encoding of DNA base and reverse/reverse complement of DNA are conducted to change pixel values, thereby diffusing the image. A 3D chaotic map is then utilized to generate a secret key for shuffling and diffusing the pixels of an image. The S-box of AES is scrambled by changing the coordinate values of the DNA S-box of AES to keep it obscured. Then, the image is substituted into the key-dependent DNA Sbox of AES. The aforementioned processes aim to satisfy the high-level security requirement of certain encrypted images. The proposed algorithm is comprehensively tested using different criteria, such as the Number of Pixels Change Rate (NPCR), the Unified Averaged Changed Intensity(UACI), the Correlation Coefficient(CC), Information Entropy (IE), histogram, Mean Square Error (MSE), and key sensitivity analysis. Result shows that the proposed algorithm satisfies all the aforementioned criteria, thereby indicating that it is resistant to different types of attacks, including differential, statistical, and exhaustive attacks.

Keywords: Chaotic map, block transcription, encoding of DNA base, reverse and reverse complement of DNA, 3D logistic map, 3D Chebyshev map, key-dependent DNA S-box of AES, NPCR, UACI, CC, IE, histogram, MSE, and key sensitivity analysis.

1. INTRODUCTION

Computer networks have changed the manner in which people communicate at present. For example, people can now easily transfer various multimedia files through networks. Among information vectors in multimedia communication, digital image is one of the greatest significant. Image communication plays a crucial role in information transmission. Accordingly, image encryption has been drawing increasing attention. Traditional encryption algorithms, such as Triple-Data Encryption Standard(3DES), International Data Encryption Algorithm(IDEA), AES, and other symmetric ciphers that were developed for textual information, are unsuitable for image encryption because of certain inherent characterstic of images, such as high pixel correlation and

redundancy. Consequently, novel image encryption algorithms are urgently required [1-3].

Chaotic systems have numerous prominent characteristics. A number of academics have observed that the imporant properties of chaotic systems can be regarded as prarallel to several cryptographic properties that are ideal to the image encryption. For example, to achieve satisfactory efficiency and security, the features of ergodicity and high sensitivity to initial conditions and control parameters can be adopted in the permutation and diffusion processes. The output of choatic map are chaotic sequences which are frequently pseudo-random sequences with highly complex structures that are difficult to predict and investigate. However, several chaotic systems have been proven nonsecure,



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particularly from the modern cryptographical perspective. Consequently, novel and safe cryptosystems should be established to guarantee information protection. DNA computing has entered the field of cryptography given the massive parallelism, huge storage, and ultra-low power consumption of DNA molecules. Several image encryption schemes that combine chaos and DNA computing have been proposed [1],[3-5].

The S-box is the foundation of recent symmetric algorithms, and an important part in the structure of any block symetric system. For the serial application of confusion and diffusion, many block ciphers using the traditional Shannon idea. Confusion is generally provided by some forms of substitution, i.e., "S-boxes," and S-boxes cause nonlinearity in cryptosystems. Any form of weakness in S-boxes can lead to unsafe cryptography [6-8].

Although AES and Data Encryption Standard (DES) are ineffective for image encryption, the S-box concept of AES can be useful in the substitution process for image encryption [33].

A key-dependent S-box indicates that the S-box is changed every round based on the key and the number of rounds. The design of fixed S-boxes enables them to resist differential and linear cryptanalyses; nevertheless, key-dependent Sboxes can better resist the aforementioned attacks [9-11].

A true color image encryption algorithm is suggested in this study. To satisfy high security requirements, this scheme combines three important concepts, namely, 3D chaotic map, DNA, and the key-dependent DNA S-box of AES. The remaining parts of this paper are organized as follows. The section 2 presents related works, including recent studies. Section 3 defines a chaotic map and then illustrates its properties that are related to cryptography and its types. Section 4 defines DNA and its most prominent properties, such as DNA encoding, complementarity, and operations. Section 5 provides a brief explanation of the S-box of AES and the important key-dependent S-box. Section 6 elucidates the suggested algorithm in detail. Section 7 presents several results of the suggested algorithm. Section 8 provides the analysis of the proposed algorithm according to several factors. Finally, section 9 concludes the study and recommends topics for future work.

2. RELATED WORKS

Numerous studies have proposed algorithms based on the combination of DNA and chaotic map. Paul, Dasgupta, Naskar, and Chaudhuri in [12] presented a novel image encryption system based on a hybrid model that comprised chaotic logistic maps, DNA masking, and DNA replacement algorithm. The important benefit of this system is the improved characteristic of DNA masks for obtaining the most compatible mask with plain images. Their investigational results indicated that their presented approach demonstrated excellent encryption capability and resisted several typical attacks.

Chai et al. in [5] developed a novel algorithm for image encryption using DNA sequence operations and chaotic systems by adopting the encryption schema of permutation and diffusion. Two chaotic systems, namely, the 2D logisticadjusted sine map and a new 1D chaotic system, were used to generate chaotic sequences. The initial values and system parameters of these systems were computed via the 256-bit hash value of the plain image. Their experimental and security analyses results demonstrated that their developed algorithm was sufficiently secure to resist known attacks.

Al-Mashhadi and Abduljaleel in [13] established a new hybrid encryption image mechanism that utilized triangular scrambling, DNA encoding, and a chaotic map. The scheme used a master key with a length of 320 bit and produced a group of sub-keys with two lengths (32 bits and 128 bits) to encrypt blocks of images. Then, a new triangular scrambling method was adopted to increase image security. Their experimental results were analyzed and compared with those of others algorithms. The comparison result showed that the proposed algorithm is extremely strong against attacks.

To realize the scrambling position transformation of image pixels and the spread of pixel values, Niu, Zhang, and Han in [14] suggested an efficient image encryption method on dependent hyperchaos mapping and DNA sequence library arithmetic. A safety analysis showed that their proposed algorithm effectively resisted plaintext, differential, and statistical attacks. Furthermore, their algorithm provided a large key space and high security.

Enayatifar, Abdullah, Isnin, Altameem, and Lee in [15] suggested a synchronous permutation and diffusion technique. A 2D plain image was converted into a 1D image to implement the proposed algorithm. Subsequently, permutation



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and diffusion steps were performed simultaneously for any pixel to reduce sending process time. The permutation step used a chaotic map and DNA to permute a pixel, whereas diffusion applied a DNA sequence and a DNA operator to encrypt a pixel. Experiments and wide security analyses were performed to show the feasibility and validity of the suggested image encryption algorithm.

Song and Qiao in [2] established a new image encryption algorithm using DNA encoding and spatiotemporal chaos. In this algorithm, an image was initially diffused through bitwise exclusive-OR (XOR) operation. Subsequently, the diffused image was encoded using the DNA mapping rule. Then, the rows and columns of the DNAencoded image were confused via the spatiotemporal chaotic system. Their experiment results showed that the suggested algorithm exhibited high key sensitivity and a large key space; moreover, it could resist various attacks, such as brute force, entropy, differential, chosenplaintext, known-plaintext, and statistical attacks. Mokhtar, Gobran, and El-Badawy in [16] developed an image encryption algorithm based on DNA and a chaotic logistic map. The map was used to confuse and diffuse the pixels of an image. Then, DNA sequence was applied as a one-time pad to change the values of the pixels in the image. The proposed algorithm could efficiently resist statistical and differential attacks.

Jain, Agarwal, Jain, and Singh in [17] proposed a symmetric image encryption algorithm based on DNA S-box and chaotic sequence. Their proposed algorithm included two parts. First, the unique DNA-based S-box performed substitution on the DNA-encoded image. Second, confusion was achieved by shuffling the rows and columns of the cipher-based chaotic map. Their proposed technique was then analyzed in terms of brute force attack, key space analysis, and statistical analysis. Satisfactory results were obtained.

Zhang et al. in [4] presented a novel image encryption schema by DNA coding, central dogma, and their combination with the 3D Vigenere cipher and logistic map. DNA coding and the genetic central dogma were carried for image coding and shuffling in the presented scheme, whereas the Vigenere cipher and chaotic system were used to enhance the security of the schema. The presented schema exhibited a large secret, key space, and high secret key sensitivity. Moreover, it could effectively resist exhaustive and statistical attacks. Zhang and Liu in [18] developed an encryption algorithm for the images using DNA coding and chaotic map. This algorithm used a chaotic sequence produced by the logistic system to shuffle image pixels, which would then be encoded via DNA encoding. Subsequently, the DNA addition operation for the rows of DNA sequence matrix was applied image encryption was finally implemented. Their developed algorithm is simple and can resist various attacks.

Jacob and Murugan in [19] established an encryption scheme that used DNA technology and JPEG zigzag coding. Their results indicated that their proposed scheme could resist brute force, statistical, and differential attacks.

Zhang et al. in [1] proposed a novel image encryption algorithm using DNA subsequence operations. In this algorithm, DNA subsequence operations, such as elongation, truncation, and deletion, were combined with the logistic chaotic map to shuffle the pixels positions in an image. The outcomes of a security analysis showed that the established algorithm exhibited strong sensitivity to a secret key and could resist exhaustive and statistic attacks.

Zhang, Guo, Xue, and Wei in [20] recommended a novel image encryption algorithm using the DNA sequence addition operation. First, the original image was encoded using a DNA sequence. Second, the DNA sequence matrix blocks were separated and a DNA sequence addition operation was used to add the blocks. Third, the DNA sequence complement operation was performed on the added matrix using two logistic maps. Finally, the DNA sequence matrix from the third step was decoded to obtain the encrypted image. Their experimental and security analysis results showed that the recommended algorithm could resist exhaustive, statistical, and differential attacks.

Niyat, Hei, and Jahan in [3] proposed an algorithm with two stages: permutation and diffusion. First, an RGB image was separated into its red (R), green (G), and (B) components, and then, three chaotic sequences were generated via chaotic maps for encryption. Subsequently, the R, G, and B components and the chaotic sequences were encoded into a DNA code, and the DNA sequence matrices were obtained. Second, the DNA matrices of the RGB image were permutated using Chen's hyper chaos system. Third, the DNA sequence XOR operation was applied to the DNA sequence matrices. Three gray images were obtained

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through decoding. Finally, the R, G, and B components were combined to obtain the encrypted RGB images. Their results showed that the proposed algorithm demonstrated a large secret key space and high secret key sensitivity, thereby leading to the effective security protection of encrypted images.

3. CHAOTIC MAP

Chaos theory is applied to the encryption field because of its advantages and capability to improve the security of encryption systems. Chaos is a random-like process in nonlinear dynamic systems. Its structure is highly complex, and thus, difficult to analyze and predict. Researchers have used different types of chaotic map, and one of the most well-known among these maps is the logistic map [3],[5],[15-16], [21-22].

The extant algorithms of cryptography which used chaotic maps can be divided into two types: permutation and diffusion. In the permutation stage, pixels locations in the plain image are modified through chaotic sequences or certain matrix transformations. The permutation algorithm displays a good encryption influence without altering pixel values, and thus, the histograms of the encryption and plain images are identical of each other. Consequently, the security of this algorithm can be threatened by statistical analysis. In the diffusion stage, the pixels values are modified in the plain image through chaotic sequences. Most of the methods are directly fulfilled encryptions that are achieved by overlaying a chaotic sequence generated by a single chaotic map and the pixel gray value of the image. Diffusion may provide higher security than permutation, but the encryption effect is poor. Therefore, several academics have collected permutation and diffusion to increase security and the encryption influence. A 1D chaotic map is used in image encryption algorithms. However, a single chaotic map may result in a small key space and low security [1], [21].

Consequently, higher-dimensional chaotic systems are currently the focus of recent research [23-26]. The encryption system that uses a 3D baker map provides higher speed than the system that uses a 2D baker map. Accordingly, the former is frequently utilized in crypto systems. Moreover, the cipher image of the encryption algorithm with a 3D baker map is faster and exhibits better balance than that with a 2D baker map. The former also exhibits an avalanche effect. In addition, 3D functions provide good security against cryptanalytic attacks [23-24], [27]. Therefore, two types of 3D chaotic map are used in the current study. In particular, 3D logistic and 3D Chebyshev chaotic maps are adopted for the proposed algorithm.

3.1 3D Logistic Map

The logistic map function described in Equation (1) is one of the most popular and useful chaotic functions.

$$X_{n+1} = RX_n (1 - X_n) \tag{1}$$

This one-dimensional logistic map can be extended to a 3D as definite in Equations 2 to 4.

$$X_{n+1} = RX_n(1-X_n) + \beta Y_n^2 X_n + \alpha Z_n^2$$
(2)

$$Y_{n+1} = RY_n (1 - Y_n) + \beta Z_n^2 Y_n + \alpha X_n^2$$
(3)
$$Z_{n+1} = RZ_n (1 - Z_n) + \beta X_n^2 Z_n + \alpha Y_n^2$$
(4)

The parameters of the nonlinear system are valued in the range 0.53 < R < 3.81, $0 < \beta < 0.022$, $0 < \alpha < 0.015$ where X0,Y0 and Z0 are in [0,1][15].

3.2 3D Chebyshev

The Chebyshev polynomial is used to generate the secret keys required in the encryption process. The Chebyshev polynomial Fn(x) of the first type, which is a polynomial in x of degree n, is prototype of a chaotic map and is defined as follows:

 $Fn(x) = cosn\theta$, where $x = cos\theta$.

Let n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4. Then, we obtain $\cos \theta = 1$, $\cos 1\theta = \cos \theta$, $\cos 2\theta = 2\cos 2\theta - 1$, $\cos 3\theta = 4\cos 3\theta - 3\cos \theta$, and $\cos 4\theta = 8\cos 4\theta - 8\cos 2\theta + 1$.

Let $\cos\theta = x$. Then, we obtain F0(x) = 1, F1(x) = x, $F2(x) = 2x^2 - 1$, $F3(x) = 4x^3 - 3x$, $F4(x) = 8x^4 - 8x^2 + 1$. The transformation of them as $F2(x) = 2x^2 - 1$ (5) $F3(y)=4y^3-3y$ (6) $F4(z) = 8z^4 - 8z^2 + 1$ (7) Chebyshev polynomial map $Fp:[-1,1] \rightarrow [-1, 1]$ of degree *p*, when p > 1 [23], [25], [28].In this study, Equations 2 to 7 are applied to generate

of degree p, when p > 1 [23], [25], [28]. In this study, Equations 2 to 7 are applied to generate secrets keys, which are then used to scramble or diffuse the pixels of an image or to change the positions of the values in the S-box of AES. **4. DNA**



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DNA is a biochemical macromolecule that carries the genetic information that is necessary for living beings to function. The structure of the DNA was discovered by James Watson in 1953. A DNA molecule consists of two single strands that form a double helix structure. The backbone of each helix strand comprises alternating sugar and phosphate groups [29-31].

A DNA sequence has four nucleic acids: adenine (A), thymine (T), cytosine (C), and guanine (G). In accordance with the rules of base pairing, purine adenine (A) always pairs with pyrimidine thymine (T), whereas pyrimidine cytosine (C) always pairs with purine guanine (G). Figure 1 illustrates a simple DNA structure, in which A and T are complementary and G and C are complementary. Such relationships are frequently referred to as the Watson–Crick base pairing rules, after the two scientists who discovered the structural basis of DNA [12],[30].



Figure 11 DNA structure

4.1 Dna Encoding And Complementary Rule

As mentioned in the previous section, a DNA sequence has four nucleic acid bases, namely, A, C, G, and T, where A and T and C and G are complementary pairs. In a binary system, 0 and 1, 00 and 11, and 10 and 01 are complementary. If 00, 11, 10, and 01 are encoded with nucleic acid bases A, C, G, and T, then we can obtain 4! = 24 types of encoding schemes. However, only 8 types of them suit the Watson–Crick complementary rule, as indicated in Table 1.

Table 1. Eight types of encoding and decoding rule

Rule	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
А	00	00	01	01	10	10	11	11
Т	11	11	10	10	01	01	00	00
С	01	10	00	11	00	11	01	10
G	10	01	11	00	11	00	10	01

An RGB image can be encoded using a DNA code. Each pixel can be expressed as a DNA sequence with a length of 4 (the length of its binary sequence is 8). To improve understanding, a grayscale pixel example with 213 =

(11010101)2 is provided. Depending on the Table 1, the DNA code of the pixel as follows: Rule 1 (TCCC), Rule 2 (TGGG), Rule 3 (GAAA), Rule 4 (CAAA), Rule 5 (GTTT), Rule 6 (CTTT), Rule 7 (ACCC), and Rule 8 (AGGG). DNA decoding rules are the opposite operation of DNA encoding rules. However, if Rule 2 is used to decode pixel instead of Rule 1, for example, then another binary sequence of the a pixel 11101010 will be obtained that mean the pixel value is 234.

To achieve image diffusion, the aforementioned method can be implemented in the algorithms of the image encryption [2-3], [5],[22].

One of the main methods for characterizing the biology of a DNA system is the reverse complement of DNA strand bases. This method is composed of two stages. In the first stage, which is the reverse, the order of the DNA bases is reversed. For example, TCGATT becomes TTAGCT. The second stage, which is the complement, can be compared with the complement operation in a binary code but with letters rather than digits; therefore, the reverse complement of GGATCCAG is CTGGATCC [32].

4.2 Central Dogma

The central dogma, which was first presented by Francis Crick, provides an explanation for the genetic information within a biological system. Three main types of biopolymers exist in an organism: DNA, RNA, and protein. The common transfer process for biological information comprises transcription, translation, and DNA replication. Transcription is the process by which the information contained in a DNA segment is transferred to RNA in accordance with the complementary base-pairing rules.



Figure 2 Central dogma processes

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A DNA segment consists of coding parts (Exons) and non-coding parts (Introns). The central dogma process of molecular biology is described in Figure 2, in which the information of genes glides into proteins [1], [34].

As shown in Figure 2, two methods (i.e., transcription and translation) exist within the central dogma. These methods are conducted to obtain protein. Transcription methods are performed by removing the non-coding parts (Introns) and retaining the coding parts (Entrons), whereas translation methods include the conversion of RNA (as mRNA) into proteins [35].

4.3 Dna Operations

As DNA computing rapidly develops, several biological and algebraic operations based on DNA sequence have been proposed, such as addition, subtraction, and XOR operations.

4.3.1 Xor Operation For Dna Sequence

The XOR operation for DNA sequences is manipulated according to the traditional XOR operation in binary. DNA XOR rules have eight types; and one type of DNA XOR is listed in Table 2. In this study, the DNA XOR operation is performed between the scrambled image and the secret keys. For example, for two DNA sequences [GACT] and [TCAG], their XOR operation result is [CCCC] based on Table 2 [5], [15-16].

Table 2.	One type	of DNA XOR	operation
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XOR	Α	G	С	Т
А	Α	G	С	Т
G	G	Α	Т	C
С	C	Т	Α	G
Т	Т	С	G	Α

5. S-BOXES OF AES

The S-box has been proven to be the foundation of modern symmetric, such as block and stream ciphers. It is a primary constituent of any block system layout. However, the S-box has several weaknesses, which can make cryptography vulnerable to cryptanalysis. Accordingly, several studies have attempted to enhance security by replacing the fixed S-box with the key-dependent S-box. The S-box of AES is developed by composing a pair of transformations. First, the multiplicative inverse in GF (2^8) is considered, with "00" mapping onto itself. Second, an affine transformation is applied [33].

D1		1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1]	[a1		[1]
b2		1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	a_2		1
b3		1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	a3		0
B4		1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	a.		0
D5	-	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	a,	+	0
be		0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	a		1
B7		0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	a7		1
Ds		0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	as		0

In the present study, 3D Chebyshev is used as a secret key to shuffle the values of the S-box and keep it secret instead of making it public.

6. PROPOSED ALGORITHM

The proposed algorithm, which includes five steps, is discussed in this section.

Step 1: Block transcription

In this step, the image is scrambled by changing the positions of the image pixels. This process is performed by applying block transcription as follows:

- 1. Decompose the red (R), green (G), and blue (B) components of the image and store them in three N × M arrays, where N and M are the numbers of array rows and columns, respectively.
- 2. Decompose each component into blocks by dividing N and M by 4. The result represents the number of blocks in each component. For example, if N and M are 512, then the result will be 128 blocks of 4×4 .
- 3. Initialize the secret parameters of the 3D logistic map to produce secret keys for the R, G, and B components.
- 4. Convert the secret keys to the decimal number using Equation 8:

$$X_{i,j} = floor(X_{i,j} \times 10^4 \mod 32).$$
 (8)

These secret keys, which range from 0 to 31, are stored in a 32×32 array. The values in the array should satisfy the condition of not having any repeat value in the row and column, as shown in Figure 3. To simplify, a 6×6 array is shown. The values of this array are used as secret keys for block transcription to scramble the image by changing the position of the blocks in the image. Block transcription is inspired by the DNA transcription process. According to this process, the skipped blocks are considered as Introns, while the remaining blocks are considered as Exons. The generation process includes a method

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 32×32 array.

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called block transcription, which is based on the mask moving along the image vertically then horizontally, block after block. The value of the key array indicates the number of blocks that should be skipped, while the index of the key array acts as the column sequence of the blocks in the image. In Figure 4, the first value in the key array is 2, which means the first two blocks of the first column of the image will be skipped (as Introns), and the third block (b8) of the first column will be the first block (as the Exon). For simplifying in figure 4 the process of block transcription of a 4×4 array is shown instead of

Figure 3array Of Keys

0	2	1	3	5	4
1	4	0	5	3	2
4	1	3	2	0	5
3	5	4	1	2	0
5	0	2	4	1	3
2	3	5	0	4	1

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Figure 4 Block Transcription Process

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The above figure shows that, for the first time, block transcription is applied to the first 4×4 blocks in the image and then moves the mask vertically one block to apply block transcription along the image. Subsequently, the mask is moved horizontally (one block down), and block transcription is applied.

- Step 2: Apply DNA encoding and implement the reverse or the reverse complement of the DNA as follows:
 - Generate secret keys from the 3D logistic map and convert them to decimal numbers in the range of 0 to 7 according to Equation 9:

 $X_{i,j} = floor(X_{i,j} \times 10^4 \bmod 8)$ (9)

• Convert each pixel in the image to binary and then perform DNA encoding using one of the eight rules in Table 1 as follows:

If the value of the secret key is 0, then rule 1 will be used to encode the pixel; if the value of the secret key is 1, then rule 2 will be used to encode the pixel; and so on until all pixels in the image are encoded.

• Generate secret keys from the 3D logistic map and then apply reverse and reverse complement of the DNA on the image pixels as follows:

 $\begin{cases} reverse \ complement, & if \ key \ value \geq 0.5 \\ reverse, & if \ key \ value < 0.5 \end{cases}$

- Step 3: The 3D chaotic map is used to diffuse the relation between the plain and cipher images by modifying the pixel values. This step is performed as follows:
 - Initialize the three secret parameters of the 3D Chebyshev to produce secret keys for R, G, and B components.
 - Generate secret keys from the 3D logistic map for R, G, and B components.
 - Convert them to decimal numbers between 0 and 255 using Equation 10:

$$X_{i,j} = floor(X_{i,j} \times 10^{10} \mod 256) \quad (10)$$

- Convert them to binary and encode them using one of the eight rules in Table 1.
- Exclusive-OR has performed between the secrets keys, as shown in Table 2.
- Exclusive-OR has performed between the results of the secrets keys and the R, G, and B components of the image, as shown in Table 2.
- Step 4: To provide additional security for the encrypted image, a key-dependent S-box of AES based on DNA is proposed. The details of this step are as follows:
 - 1. Convert the value of the AES S-box to binary and then apply DNA encoding using one of the eight rules in Table 1.
 - 2. Divide each sub S-box into four quarters.
 - 3. Generate secret keys from the 3D Chebyshev in the range of 0 to 3 and convert them to decimal numbers.
 - 4. Rotate each quarter as follows:
 - 0 no rotate
 - 1 rotate quarter by 90°
 - 2 rotate quarter by 180°
 - 3 rotate quarter by 270°

According to these Intron and Exon processes, the quarter with no rotation can be considered an Intron, while the rotated quarter is an Exon. The rotation process is performed as shown in Figure 5 (a)–(c).

5. Compute the inverse rotated DNA Sbox. For example, if the CC represents the row and TA represents the column, then the intersection of the row with the column will represent the CATC in the rotated DNA S-box. While in inverse rotated DNA S-box the intersection of the row (CA) with the column (TC) will represent the CCTA. Figure 6(a-c): shows example of DNA S-BOX, rotated DNA S-box, and inverse rotated DNA S-box respectively.

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Figure 5(A-C): (A) Rotate S-Box By 90, (B) Rotate S-Box By 180, And (C) Rotate S-Box By 270.

	DNA S-	-box														
	AA	AC	AG	AT	CA	CC	CG	CT	GA	GC	GG	GT	TA	TC	TG	TT
AA	TAGC	ATTC	TCTC	TGTC	GATT	TGGC	TTGC	CCAT	AATA	CAAA	TCGC	TGGA	GTTT	TCCT	TGGG	GCTC
AC	GGAT	GAAG	CGAT	CTTC	GGTT	CGCC	TCAC	AATT	CTGG	ACCT	GAGG	TTGG	ATCG	ACGG	GATC	AAAT
AG	TCTG	CTTT	TACG	GCGA	GCTA	TTTA	TCTT	ATAT	ACTA	CCGG	CCGT	CATT	CATC	AGCT	CATA	CCCA
AT	ACAA	TCAT	TAGA	TAAT	AGCA	GCCG	CCAA	GGCG	TCAA	GACA	AAAG	GAGT	TGGT	TCGA	GATG	CCTC
CA	CGAA	TAAG	ATGA	GGCA	TGCA	GTGC	GGCC	AAGG	GACC	TGTA	GCCT	TATG	CGGA	TAGT	TTGA	ACAG
CC	TACC	CACT	AAAA	CTGT	AAGA	ATTT	CATG	TGCC	GGGC	TGAT	GTTG	CGTA	GGAC	ATAC	AGCC	TTAT
CG	AACT	TTGT	GGGG	TGTT	TAAC	CTAC	TATA	CCAG	CCAC	CGTT	GAAA	TTTC	AACC	ATTA	TTCG	AGGG
CT	CACC	TAGG	AAAC	TTAG	GACG	CTCG	AGTA	CCTT	ATTG	GCTG	GGCT	CAGA	AACA	TTTT	TATT	GACT
GA	CTAT	ATAA	TACA	ATGT	TTCC	TCCG	ACAC	TCCA	ACAT	TCGG	GTTC	CTTA	ACGC	CTCC	CGCA	TATC
GC	AAGC	CAAG	TTAC	ATCT	GAGA	GGGA	AACG	AGAG	GCAC	GTGT	AGTG	ACCA	GTCT	GTCC	TGAA	TGCT
GG	AAGT	GATA	GGTA	GGAA	CGAC	GCAA	ACGA	ATCC	GAAT	TACT	ATGG	GAGC	CACG	CCCG	ACGT	CGTC
GT	TCGT	AGAT	TCTA	CTGC	CTAG	CCCT	GTAC	CGGG	ATGC	GCCC	ACTT	GGGT	CCGC	GGTC	GTGG	AGAA
TA	GGTG	AGTC	CCGA	GTGA	ATCA	GCGG	ACTG	GCAT	AGGT	CTCT	ACTC	TTCA	TGAC	CTTG	TGAG	GGAG
TC	AATC	GTTA	CCTG	GCGC	AGAC	TAAA	GCTT	GTAA	CAGC	CCTA	TCCC	CGTG	GCAG	CAAT	CTCA	GTCG
TG	CAGT	AGTT	AGCG	CACA	CGGC	CGCT	GTAG	ACCG	TGCG	GTCA	TCAG	CGGT	GTAT	CCCC	AGGA	TTCT
TT	ATAG	CAGG	CGAG	CTAA	TTTG	GCGT	GAAC	AGGC	CAAC	CGCG	CTGA	TTAA	AATG	ACCC	TGTG	GCCA

(a) DNA S-BOX

	Rotate	ed Di	IA S-B	xoc													
	AA	AC	AG	AT	CA	CC	CG	CT	GA	GC	GG	GT	TA	TC	TG	TT	
AA	CCTT	AGTA	CTCG	GACG	TTAG	AAAC	TAGG	CACC	ATTG	GCTG	GGCT	CAGA	AACA	TTTT	TATT	GACT	
AC	CCAG	TATA	CTAC	TAAC	TGTT	GGGG	TTGT	AACT	CCAC	CGTT	GAAA	TTTC	AACC	ATTA	TTCG	AGGG	
AG	TGCC	CATG	ATTT	AAGA	CTGT	AAAA	CACT	TACC	GGGC	TGAT	GTTG	CGTA	GGAC	ATAC	AGCC	TTAT	
AT	AAGG	GGCC	GTGC	TGCA	GGCA	ATGA	TAAG	CGAA	GACC	TGTA	GCCT	TATG	CGGA	TAGT	TTGA	ACAG	
CA	GGCG	CCAA	GCCG	AGCA	TAAT	TAGA	TCAT	ACAA	TCAA	GACA	AAAG	GAGT	TGGT	TCGA	GATG	CCTC	
CC	ATAT	TCTT	TTTA	GCTA	GCGA	TACG	CTTT	TCTG	ACTA	CCGG	CCGT	CATT	CATC	AGCT	CATA	CCCA	
CG	AATT	TCAC	CGCC	GGTT	CTTC	CGAT	GAAG	GGAT	CTGG	ACCT	GAGG	TTGG	ATCG	ACGG	GATC	AAAT	
CT	CCAT	TTGC	TGGC	GATT	TGTC	TCTC	ATTC	TAGC	AATA	CAAA	TCGC	TGGA	GTTT	TCCT	TGGG	GCTC	
GA	AGGC	GAAC	GCGT	TTTG	CTAA	CGAG	CAGG	ATAG	CAAC	TGCG	CAGC	AGGT	ATGC	GAAT	GCAC	ACAT	
GC	ACCG	GTAG	CGCT	CGGC	CACA	AGCG	AGTT	CAGT	CGCG	GTCA	CCTA	CTCT	GCCC	TACT	GTGT	TCGG	
GG	GTAA	GCTT	TAAA	AGAC	GCGC	CCTG	GTTA	AATC	CTGA	TCAG	TCCC	ACTC	ACTT	ATGG	AGTG	GTTC	
GT	GCAT	ACTG	GCGG	ATCA	GTGA	CCGA	AGTC	GGTG	TTAA	CGGT	CGTG	TTCA	GGGT	GAGC	ACCA	CTTA	
TA	CGGG	GTAC	CCCT	CTAG	CTGC	TCTA	AGAT	TCGT	AATG	GTAT	GCAG	TGAC	CCGC	CACG	GTCT	ACGC	
TC	ATCC	ACGA	GCAA	CGAC	GGAA	GGTA	GATA	AAGT	ACCC	CCCC	CAAT	CTTG	GGTC	CCCG	GTCC	CTCC	
TG	AGAG	AACG	GGGA	GAGA	ATCT	TTAC	CAAG	AAGC	TGTG	AGGA	CTCA	TGAG	GTGG	ACGT	TGAA	CGCA	
TT	TCCA	ACAC	TCCG	TTCC	ATGT	TACA	ATAA	CTAT	GCCA	TTCT	GTCG	GGAG	AGAA	CGTC	TGCT	TATC	

(b) Rotated DNA S-BOX

	Invers	5 DN	A S-bo	x												
	AA	AC	AG	AT	CA	CC	CG	CT	GA	GC	GG	GT	TA	TC	TG	TT
AA	AGCC	AACC	CAGG	CGTT	AATA	ACTA	TGAC	ACCT	AGAT	TGCT	ATAA	TCCT	CTGA	GGCT	TAGA	CGAA
AC	CACT	TTAC	ATTT	GATT	GTTG	TCGA	GCAA	CGGC	TCAC	TATT	CGTC	TGTC	CCGA	GGGT	GTAC	GGTA
AG	TTTA	GGAT	TGAA	TACG	CAAT	AGTG	GCCC	CCTC	TGGC	GAAA	ACTT	GAGT	AAAC	GTCG	GGTG	GCCG
AT	TTCG	AGTC	GACT	CCAA	GTAT	TCAA	CGTA	TGCA	ATCC	GATA	GGTC	TTCA	ACTC	CTCG	AAGA	AGAG
CA	CTGC	GAGA	TGCG	TCGG	GCCA	AACT	TATC	AGCG	AAGT	GAGG	GACG	GCCT	CCTG	CCTA	AGAC	CCGT
CC	CAAC	ACGA	ACAA	CTAA	CCTT	TCGC	TCTC	TAAG	GTCC	TATA	CCGC	CCGG	GCGG	CATT	GGCC	AAAA
CG	ATCT	TCAT	GACC	CGCC	TGTT	CGAG	GCGA	GCAG	ATTA	GCAT	TAAA	GTGC	AGGT	TTTC	GTGG	ACGC
CT	GACA	ACAG	TAAT	TTCT	TGGG	TCTT	AAAG	GCGT	GGGA	TACA	CGGA	AGCA	GTTT	CGCA	TCGT	CCCG
GA	ACGG	GAAC	CGCG	GATC	CAGC	ATGA	AAAT	AATT	TGAT	GTTC	CGGG	CAGT	TCCG	CGTG	CATG	CTAT
GC	TCAG	GATG	TAGG	GTAA	TTGA	GCTA	CAAG	ATGG	CCCA	GGCA	GTAG	GAAG	CCAT	CTTT	AAGC	GGAC
GG	TCCA	AGTA	TTGT	CGCT	ATCA	ATAC	CAAA	AAGG	TGAG	AGGA	ACCC	GTTA	TCCC	TCTA	GTCT	CGAT
GT	GGAA	TAAC	GCAC	TAGC	GCGC	TCTG	TTGG	TATG	GTCA	ATAG	TGTA	GCTG	GGCG	GGTT	AGGG	CTTA
TA	GGAG	ACAT	ATCG	CACA	TTCC	AGCT	CCCC	GCTC	CACC	CTCT	AACG	ATTC	ACAC	TTTT	ATGT	AATG
TC	CAGA	CGAC	GGGC	CACG	TTAA	GGGG	TTAG	CTTC	CATC	CTGG	GCTT	TACT	TACC	CTCC	CCCT	CCAC
TG	TGTG	TAGT	TGGT	AGGC	ATAT	AGAA	GAGC	TTTG	CTGT	CTAG	CTTG	CATA	ATGC	CTCA	TGGA	ACCA
TT	GTGA	TGCC	AACA	AGTT	GTGT	TTAT	ACTG	TTGC	ATTG	CTAC	CGGT	ACCG	CCAG	ACGT	GAAT	AATC

(c) inverse rotated DNA S-BOX

Figure 6(A-C): (A) DNA S-BOX, (B) Rotated DNA S-Box, And(C) Inverse Rotated DNA S-BOX

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- 6. Substitute each pixel in the image in the rotated DNA S-box. For example, if the pixel is ATGC, where AT represents the row and GC represents the column, then the intersection of the row with the column will represent the new pixel (GATA).
- Step 5: Apply DNA decoding and recombine all components into a single image to obtain the cipher image.

The decryption stages are nearly the same as those of the encrypting stages in reverse order except the substitution will be in the inverse rotated DNA S-box instead of in the rotated DNA S-box. i3-3217U processor, 4 GB CPU, and 18.0 GHZ RAM. Different images, such as Pepper, Macaw, Baboon, and Lena, are used as plain images. The following initial values are used with the 3D logistic map and 3D Chebyshev in all the experiments.

- 1. x0=0.976, y0=0.677, z0=0.973, R=3.80,
- β =0.021, α =0.013 for 3D logistic map
- 2. x0=0.234; y0=-0.398; z0=-0.88 for 3D Chebyshev map.

Where x for R, y for G, and z for B

7. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

The experiment is performed using MATLAB

R2016a on a PC with Windows 7 OS, Intel Core

Figure 7(a-d) illustrates the plain, scrambled in step1, encrypted images, and corresponding decrypted images respectively.



(A) Plain Images (B) Scrambled Images (C) Encrypted Images (D) Decrypted Images Figure 7 (A-D): (A) Plain Images, (B) Scrambled Images, (C) Encrypted Images, and (D) Decrypted Images

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As shown in Figure 7, the decrypted images that used the correct decryption keys are the same plain images from the visual point. Therefore, the proposed algorithm can successfully encrypt and decrypt the images. When the encrypted images are transmitted to the authorized receivers, the correct plain images can be easily decrypted without information loss or distortion.

8. Security Analysis

In this section, several criteria are analyzed to verify the effectiveness and efficiency of the proposed algorithm against different attacks and statistic attack. These criteria include NPCR, UACI,CC, IE, MSE, histogram, and key sensitivity analysis.

8.1 Differential Attack Analysis

Researchers typically use NPCR and UACI as the criteria for examining resistance to differential attacks. NPCR indicates The Number of Pixels Change Rate when one pixel of a plain image is modified. UACI indicates the average intensity of differences between plain and cipher images. A cipher image should significantly differ from its plain image. Such difference can be measured via NPCR and UACI. The proposed cryptosystem can ensure that two cipher images completely differ or that at least one bit of difference exists between them. NPCR and UACI can be derived through the following equations:

$$NPCR \frac{\sum_{i,j} D(i,j)}{w \times H} 100\%$$
(11)

Where D(i, j) defined as

$$D(i,j) = \begin{cases} 0, & if \quad C_1(i,j) = C_2(i,j) \\ 1, & if \quad C_1(i,j) \neq C_2(i,j) \end{cases}$$

UACI is defined as follow

$$UACI = \frac{1}{W \times H} \sum_{i,j} \left[\frac{\left| \mathcal{C}_{1(i,j)} - \mathcal{C}_{2(i,j)} \right|}{255} \right] \times 100\%$$
(12)

Where W and H denote the width and height of the image, respectively; and c1 and c2 denote the encrypted images before and after one pixel image is change, respectively [22], [36-37].

The test is performed on the proposed algorithm, which involves the modification of a single plain

image pixel. The outcomes of the NPCR and UACI tests are presented in Table 3. The results clearly indicate that a single change in different plain images effectively modifies the encrypted images, thereby proving that the proposed algorithm can effectively resist differential attacks.

8.2 Statistic Attack Analysis

Three criteria have been performed to analysis the proposed algorithm against statistical attacks as shown in the following sections

8.2.1 CC

The efficiency of CC is a critical feature in the new encryption algorithm. This variable is calculated based on the CCs of the cipher and plain pixels. A good encryption algorithm can decrease the correlation between adjacent pixels. To analyze the CC of the cipher image, Equation 13 is used as follows:

$$\bar{A} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i$$

$$\bar{B} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} y_i$$

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \bar{A})(y_i - \bar{B})}{\sqrt{(\sum_{i=1}^{N} (x_i - \bar{A})^2)((y_i - \bar{B})^2)}}$$
(13)

where N is the number of selected adjacent pixels that will be used to calculate the CC of an image; and xi and yi are the values of adjacent pixels vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and anti-diagonally in the plain and cipher images[1],[3],[38].

The CCs of the plain and cipher images are shown vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and anti-diagonally in Tables 4 and 5. The results clearly indicate that no relation exists between adjacent pixels, thereby indicating that relations are eliminated and nearly zero.



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Table 3. NPCR And UACI Of The Different Images.

Images		NPCR		UACI			
	R	G	B	R	G	B	
Pepper	99.5060	99.5445	99.5018	30.5800	32.8549	33.5133	
Macaw	99.5060	99.5033	99.5075	29.6229	32.8923	33.3911	
Baboon	99.5026	99.5300	99.5235	34.4848	31.8003	32.3615	
Linea	99.5148	99.5224	99.5018	32.6698	29.8269	31.5435	

Table 4. CC (Horizontal, Vertical, Diagonal, And Anti-Diagonal) Of The Different Plain Images.

Direction	Horizontal			Vertical		Diagonal			Anti-Diagonal			
Images	R	G	В	R	G	В	R	G	В	R	G	В
Pepper	0.9877	0.9936	0.9869	0.9879	.9949	0.9881	0.9753	0.9881	0.9748	0.9777	0.9897	0.9771
Macaw	0.9812	0.9772	0.9775	0.9891	0.9860	0.9867	0.9783	0.9728	0.9732	0.9724	0.9670	0.9675
Baboon	0.9896	0.9896	0.9824	0.9835	0.9842	0.9721	0.9738	0.9746	0.9553	0.9764	0.9770	0.9601
Linea	0.9865	0.9871	0.9749	0.9931	0.9936	0.9862	0.9772	0.9786	0.9581	0.9840	0.9844	0.9681

Table 5. CC (Horizontal, Vertical, Diagonal, And Anti-Diagonal) Of The Different Cipher Image

Direction	Horizontal			Vertical		Diagonal			Anti-Diagonal			
Images	R	G	В	R	G	В	R	G	В	R	G	В
Pepper	0.0784	0.0842	0.0776	0.0733	0.0789	0.0719	0.0692	0.0670	0.0720	0.0672	0.0649	0.0704
Macaw	0.0760	0.0833	0.0761	0.0709	0.0780	0.0718	0.0672	0.0648	0.0716	0.0646	0.0644	0.0703
Baboon	0.0771	0.0835	0.0758	0.0762	0.0805	0.0727	.0675	0.0653	0.0693	0.0698	0.0673	0.0731
Linea	0.0818	0.0853	0.0804	0.0738	0.0789	0.0737	0.0669	0.0621	0.0696	0.0647	0.0624	0.0699

8.2.2 IE

IE is an essential randomness feature that is applied to various fields, such as lossless data compression, statistical inference, machine learning, and cryptography. This criterion can measure the distribution of gray values in an image. When IE is high, the distribution of gray values is uniform. The definition of IE is expressed as Equation 14:

$$H(m) = \sum_{0}^{l} P(mi) \log_{2} P(mi)$$
(14)

where mi is the *ith* gray value for the L level gray image, and P(mi) is the appearance probability of mi. The IE of an ideal random image is 8[1-2],[5]. The IE outcomes of the different plain and cipher images used in this study are presented in Table 6. As shown in the table, the entropy in the encrypted images is nearly 8.

 Table 6. The Result IE Of The Different Plain And
 Cipher Images.

Images	Entropy/plain image	Entropy/cipher image		
Pepper	7.7798	7.9990		
Macaw	7.6253	7.9989		
Baboon	7.7681	7.9992		
Linea	7.677	7.9997		

8.2.3 Histogram

A histogram is used to present the distribution of pixels in an image. To resist statistical attacks, the histogram of a cipher image should be sufficiently uniform. If the histogram of a cipher image is uniform then the encryption scheme will be faced the statistical attacks. Otherwise, attackers may get important information from the plain image by investigating the histogram of the cipher image [2-3],[5].

The histograms of the plain and cipher images for the R, G, and B components are presented in Figure 8 (a) and 8 (b), respectively. The histogram of the encrypted image is flat and completely differs from that of the plain image.

Similar to the plain image, the encrypted image exhibits no redundancy. Therefore, it can resist statistical attacks.

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tv Analysis

Chaotic maps are extremely sensitive to the initial condition and the system control parameters. If a small change occurs, then the decrypted image will no longer be similar to the plain image. Key sensitivity has two approaches. First, when a tiny altered key is approved to encrypt the same image and a entirely altered cipher image is acquired, the CC among the cipher images should be extremely small. Second, the cipher image cannot be correctly decrypted although only a tiny altered exists between the encryption and decryption keys [1-2], [5], [22], [24], [40-41].

The plain image is encrypted into a pair of different keys for the first approach. Suppose that the selected keys are ($\alpha = 0.013$, $\beta = 0.021$, and R = 3.80), whereas the slightly different keys are ($\alpha = 0.013000001$, $\beta = 0.021$, and R = 3.80), ($\alpha = 0.013$, $\beta = 0.021000001$, and R = 3.80), and ($\alpha = 0.013$, $\beta = 0.021$, and R = 3.80000001), the results of the CC among the cipher images are presented in Table 8.

Table 8. Result Of CC For The Different Keys

Keys			
	Red	Green	Blue
<i>α</i> =0.013000001	-0.0439	-0.0448	-0.0437
β=0.021000001	-0.0504	-0.0501	-0.0483
R=3.80000001	-0.0433	-0.0449	-0.0445

As shown in the table, CC is nearly zero when a slight change occurs in the keys. For the second approach, the plain image is initially encrypted with the selected $\alpha = 0.013$, $\beta = 0.021$, and R = 3.80, whereas the slightly different keys $(\alpha = 0.013000001, \beta = 0.021, R = 3.80), (\alpha = 0.017, \beta = 0.021, R = 3.80)$ β =0.021000001, and R=3.80), and (α =0.017, β =0.021, and R=3.80000001) are used for decryption. The corresponding decipher images are shown in Figure 9(a-c). The plain image cannot be decrypted when only a tiny alteration exists among the decryption keys. Thus, most of the keys do not reveal any information regarding the plain image. Consequently, the proposed algorithm is highly sensitive to any slight change in the keys and can resist exhaustive attacks.

 Table 7. Result Of MSE For The Different Cipher

 Images.

Images		MSE	
	R	G	В
Pepper	96.271	96.851	97.292
Macaw	94.987	97.935e	93.380
Baboon	94.116	98.344	99.305
Linea	98.383e	94.32	95.051





(a) Histogram Of Plain Image



(B) Histogram Of Cipher Image Figure 8 (A-B): (A) Histogram Of Plain Image, (B) Histogram Of Cipher Image.

8.3 MSE

MSE denotes the difference between the plain and cipher images. This difference must be extremely high to achieve good performance. MSE is calculated for the cipher image using Equation 15 as follows:

$$MSE = \frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i=1}^{M} \sum_{j=1}^{N} (x(i, j) - y(i, j))^{2}$$
(15)

where x(i, j) represents the plain image, y(i, j)represents the cipher image, and i and j are the pixel positions of the M × N image. MSE is zero when x(i, j) = y(i, j) [5],[29],[39]. Table 7 illustrates the result of MSE for the different cipher images.

8.4 Key Sensitivity Analysis



(c)

In this section, statistical performance is compared with others image encryption algorithms [42-46] in the statistical analysis (IE, CC (Vertical, Horizontal and diagonal), NPCR and UCAI) by using Lena image, which are shown in Table 8 where the best result in the table is illustrated by a bold font.

References	IE		CC		NPCR	UCI
		Horizont	Vertical	Diagonal		
		al				
Ref.42	7.9992	0.0058	0.0022	0.0031	99.71%	33.63%
Ref.43	7.9975	0.0009	0.0038	-0.0002	99.6653	0.334758
Ref.44	7.9993	0.0020	0.0009	0.0016	99.647	0.334815
Ref.45	7.9994	0.0009	-0.0022	0.0149	99.6427	0.335615
Ref.46	7.9978	-0.0054	0.0093	-0.0009	97.1394	0.331084
Proposed algorithm	7.9997	0.00800	0.00347	0.00238	99.8666	37.2355

Table 8. Comparison With Others Algorithms

From the above table, it can show the IE value of the four algorithms are all very near to 8, which can promise no information leak of cipher image. All values of correlation coefficient of the four algorithms in horizontal, vertical and diagonal direction extremely close 0. Compare to the Refs. [42-46], the UACI and NPCR values of proposed algorithm is more close to the ideal value 37.2355 and 99.8666 % respectively .The proposed algorithm in Ref. [42] are constructed by DNA sequences and genetic algorithm, and has quite complex structure, which may lead to side effect for the performance. In contrast, our scheme takes advantage of the 3D chaotic map and Key-dependent DNA S-Box of AES to achieve high complexity with simple structure. So proposed algorithm of image encryption shows some advantage and can be regarded as a candidate for image encryption in practical application.

(a)

(b)

Figure 9 (a-c): (a) The decrypted image following there is a small alteration in value *R*,

(b) the decrypted image following is a small

alteration in value β , (c) the decrypted image

following a small alteration in value R.

9. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORKS

This study proposes the use of a 3D chaotic system, DNA sequence, and the key-dependent DNA S-box of AES to encrypt and decrypt color

images. The proposed algorithm includes five steps: block transcription, encoding of DNA base, reverse/reverse complement of DNA, use of a 3D chaotic map, and key-dependent DNA Sbox of AES. Block transcription is used to scramble image pixels by changing their locations in the image. The encoding of DNA base, reverse/reverse complement of DNA are conducted to change the pixel values for diffusing image pixels. A 3D chaotic map is adopted to generate a secret key for shuffling or diffusing the pixels in an image. The S-box of AES is scrambled using secret keys by changing the coordinate values of the DNA S-box of AES to keep it a secret. Then, the image is substituted into the DNA S-box of AES. These steps aim to shuffle and diffuse the image more than once to ensure high security. The experimental results indicate that the proposed algorithm can provide high levels of security and resistance against many types of attacks. In a future research, the additional properties of DNA and how they can be linked to the encryption of images will be investigated.

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