

# **Configuration Manual**

MSc Internship  
Cyber Security

Manmeet Kumar  
Student ID: x21113602

School of Computing  
National College of Ireland

Supervisor: Arghir Nicolae Moldovan

**National College of Ireland**  
**MSc Project Submission Sheet**  
**School of Computing**

**Student Name:** Manmeet Kumar  
**Student ID:** X21113602  
**Programme:** MSc Cyber Security **Year:** 2022-2023  
**Module:** MSc Internship  
**Supervisor:** Arghir Nicolae Moldovan  
**Submission Due Date:** 15/12/2022  
**Project Title:** Secure Transmission of Data using Audio Steganography and Cryptography  
**Word Count:** 715 **Page Count:** 6

I hereby certify that the information contained in this (my submission) is information pertaining to research I conducted for this project. All information other than my own contribution will be fully referenced and listed in the relevant bibliography section at the rear of the project.

ALL internet material must be referenced in the bibliography section. Students are required to use the Referencing Standard specified in the report template. To use other author's written or electronic work is illegal (plagiarism) and may result in disciplinary action.

**Signature:** Manmeet  
**Date:** 15/12/2022

**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS AND CHECKLIST**

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Attach a completed copy of this sheet to each project (including multiple copies)   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Attach a Moodle submission receipt of the online project submission,</b> to each project (including multiple copies).  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>You must ensure that you retain a HARD COPY of the project,</b> both for your own reference and in case a project is lost or mislaid. It is not sufficient to keep a copy on computer. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Assignments that are submitted to the Programme Coordinator Office must be placed into the assignment box located outside the office.

| <b>Office Use Only</b>           |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Signature:                       |  |
| Date:                            |  |
| Penalty Applied (if applicable): |  |

# Configuration Manual

Manmeet Kumar

X21113602

## 1. Introduction

This manual contains information on the proposed model's setup and requirements, including particular libraries and essential applications/softwares. This setup handbook also includes instructions on how to perform the experiment.

## 2. Hardware

- Processor: 9<sup>th</sup> Gen Intel® Core™ i7-9750 CPU @ 2.6 GHz, 2592 Mhz, 6 Core(s)
- Installed RAM: 16.0 GB, DDR4
- System Type: 64-bit OS, x64-based processor
- SSD: 237 GB
- Graphics card: NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1650

## 3. Software and Tools Used

- Operating System: Kali Linux 5.18.0
- Programming Language: Python 3.10.8
- Code Editor: Visual Studio Code
- Steganography Tool: Steghide 0.5.1
- Other Tools: Microsoft Excel, NumPy 1.23.4

## 4. Configuration Steps

1. Python is pre-installed on Kali Linux. To check its version, use below command:

To check its version:

```
# python3 -V
```

To update python version:

```
# sudo apt-get install python3
```

```
(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$ python3 -V
Python 3.10.8

(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$ sudo apt-get install python3
[sudo] password for kali:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
python3 is already the newest version (3.10.6-1).
python3 set to manually installed.
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  freeglut3 libexporter-tiny-perl libhttp-server-simple-perl liblist-moreutils-perl liblist-moreutils-xs-perl libpython3.9-minimal
  python3-mypy-extensions python3-responses python3-spyse python3-token-bucket python3-typing-inspect python3.9 python3.9-minimal
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 191 not upgraded.

(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$
```

Fig. 1: Python Installation

2. Download and follow steps mentioned in below link to install Visual Studio Code in Kali Linux.

Download link: <https://code.visualstudio.com/download> [1]

Installation Guide: <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/setup/linux> [2]

3. To install Steghide use below command[3]:

# sudo apt install steghide

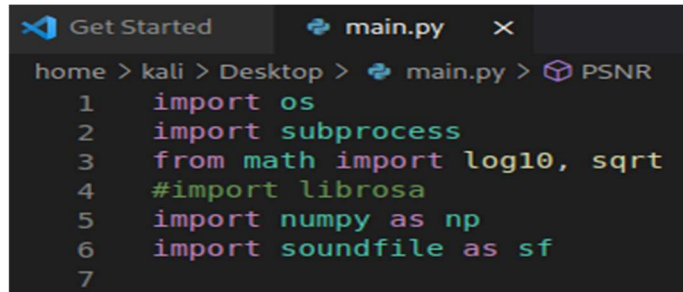
```
(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$ sudo apt-get install steghide
[sudo] password for kali:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
steghide is already the newest version (0.5.1-15).
The following packages were automatically installed and are no longer required:
  freeglut3 libexporter-tiny-perl libhttp-server-simple-perl liblist-moreutils-perl liblist-moreutils-xs-perl libpython3.9-minimal
  python3-mypy-extensions python3-responses python3-spyse python3-token-bucket python3-typing-inspect python3.9 python3.9-minimal
Use 'sudo apt autoremove' to remove them.
0 upgraded, 0 newly installed, 0 to remove and 191 not upgraded.

(kali@kali)-[~]
└─$
```

Fig. 2: Steghide Installation

## 5. Implementation

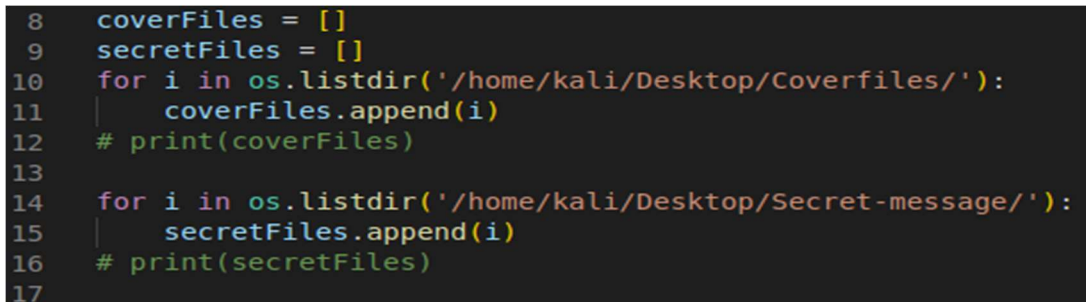
The implementation starts by importing required libraries. These imported libraries are used for different purposes like running OS commands, performing mathematical operations, usage of audio files in the project etc.



```
Get Started  main.py  X
home > kali > Desktop > main.py > PSNR
1  import os
2  import subprocess
3  from math import log10, sqrt
4  #import librosa
5  import numpy as np
6  import soundfile as sf
7
```

Fig. 3: Python Libraries

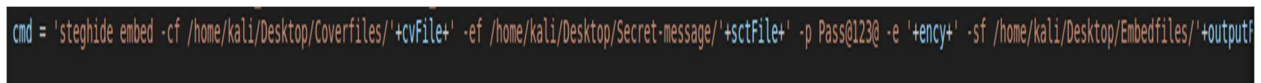
After importing all the required libraries, we iterated through folders containing cover audio files and secret data files and select these files to perform encryption and embedding of secret data files into cover audio files.



```
8  coverFiles = []
9  secretFiles = []
10 for i in os.listdir('/home/kali/Desktop/Coverfiles/'):
11     coverFiles.append(i)
12 # print(coverFiles)
13
14 for i in os.listdir('/home/kali/Desktop/Secret-message/'):
15     secretFiles.append(i)
16 # print(secretFiles)
17
```

Fig. 4: Iteration through Cover audio and secret data files

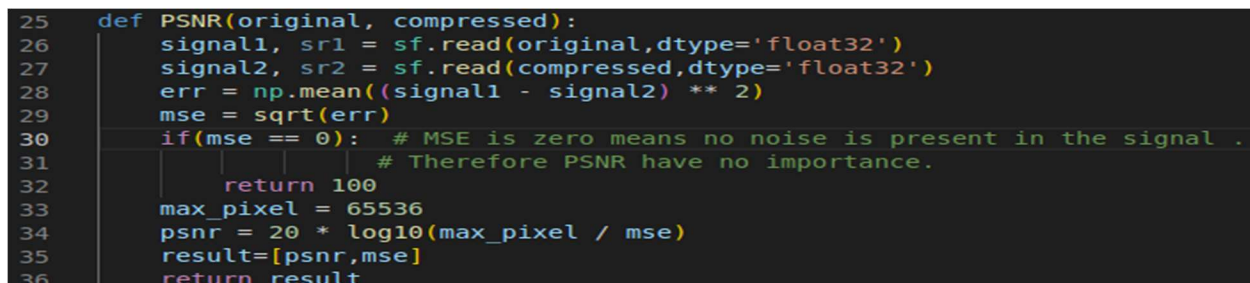
Next, we used a kali Linux tool named Steghide to perform different types of encryptions on all the files present in “Secret-message” folder then embed these encrypted files into cover audio files present in “Coverfiles” folder and the resultant Stego-audio files are saved in a folder named “Embedfiles”



```
cmd = 'steghide embed -cf /home/kali/Desktop/Coverfiles/' + cvFile + ' -ef /home/kali/Desktop/Secret-message/' + sctFile + ' -p Pass@123@ -e '+ency+' -sf /home/kali/Desktop/Embedfiles/' + output
```

Fig. 5: Steghide Operation

After getting all the stego-audio files we calculated MSE and PSNR for all the files to do evaluation of the experiment.[4]



```
25 def PSNR(original, compressed):
26     signal1, sr1 = sf.read(original, dtype='float32')
27     signal2, sr2 = sf.read(compressed, dtype='float32')
28     err = np.mean((signal1 - signal2) ** 2)
29     mse = sqrt(err)
30     if(mse == 0): # MSE is zero means no noise is present in the signal .
31         # Therefore PSNR have no importance.
32         return 100
33     max_pixel = 65536
34     psnr = 20 * log10(max_pixel / mse)
35     result=[psnr,mse]
36     return result
```

Fig. 6: MSE & PSNR calculation

After calculating PSNR and MSE for all the Stego-audio files, we put all the required fields like “CoverFile name”, “size”, “SecretFile name”, “size”, “Encryption used”, “Output file name”, “PSNR” and “MSR” in CSV for evaluation part.[5]

```
39 csvData = []
40 for coverFile in range(len(coverFiles)):
41     for secretFile in range(len(secretFiles)):
42         for encryption in range(len(encryptions)):
43             data = {}
44             cvFile=coverFiles[coverFile]
45             cvFileSize=os.path.getsize('/home/kali/Desktop/Coverfiles/'+cvFile)/1024/1024
46             sctFile=secretFiles[secretFile]
47             sctFileSize=os.path.getsize('/home/kali/Desktop/Secret-message/'+sctFile)/1024/1024
48             ency = encryptions[encryption]
49
50             outputFname = cvFile.split('.')[0]+'_'+sctFile.split('.')[0]+'_'+ency+'.wav'
51             cmd = 'steghide embed -cf /home/kali/Desktop/Coverfiles/'+cvFile+' -ef /home/kali/Desktop/Secret-message/'+sctFile+' -p Pass@123@ -e'
52
53             print(subprocess.getoutput(cmd))
54             # outFileSize=os.path.getsize('/home/kali/Desktop/Embedfiles/'+outputFname)/1024/1024
55
56             data['CoverFile']=cvFile
57             data['CoverFile_size']=cvFileSize
58             data['SecretFile'] = sctFile
59             data['SecretFile_size'] =sctFileSize
60             data['Encryption'] = ency
61             data['outputFile'] = outputFname
62             # data['outputFile_size'] = outFileSize
63             result= PSNR('/home/kali/Desktop/Coverfiles/'+cvFile,'/home/kali/Desktop/Embedfiles/'+outputFname)
64             data['PSNR'] = result[0]
65             data['MSE'] = result[1]
66             csvData.append(data)
67
import csv
with open('thesisOutput.csv', 'w') as csvfile:
    fieldnames = ['CoverFile', 'CoverFile_size','SecretFile','SecretFile_size','Encryption','outputFile','PSNR','MSE']
    writer = csv.DictWriter(csvfile, fieldnames=fieldnames)
    writer.writeheader()
    for i in csvData:
        writer.writerow(i)
```

Fig. 7: CSV code

## References

- [1] “Download Visual Studio Code - Mac, Linux, Windows.” <https://code.visualstudio.com/Download> (accessed Dec. 15, 2022).
- [2] “Running Visual Studio Code on Linux.” <https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/setup/linux> (accessed Dec. 15, 2022).
- [3] “steghide | Kali Linux Tools,” *Kali Linux*. <https://www.kali.org/tools/steghide/> (accessed Dec. 15, 2022).
- [4] “Python | Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio (PSNR) - GeeksforGeeks.” <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/python-peak-signal-to-noise-ratio-psnr/> (accessed Dec. 15, 2022).
- [5] “csv — CSV File Reading and Writing,” *Python documentation*. <https://docs.python.org/3/library/csv.html> (accessed Dec. 15, 2022).