

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2016

Information hiding 788 (COS 788)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Module credits	15.00
Programmes	BScHons Computer Science
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	English
Academic organisation	Computer Science
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

Information hiding is a category of computer security that focuses on embedding information in digital objects. Information, such as digital signatures, are sometimes embedded in objects to indicate ownership or origin – a technology that is called watermarking. Alternatively information is sometimes hidden in digital objects to facilitate invisible or inaudible communication – called steganography. Steganography focuses on the confidentiality of information, while watermarking is used to protect intellectual property. This module covers the techniques and algorithms used in both technologies to embed information in objects with minimal perceptual and audible changes to the objects. The module also provides a brief overview of different multimedia formats, such as image, audio and video, in order to understand their potential and limitations in the field of information hiding. Potential attacks on information hiding systems are also investigated.

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