King Fahd University for Petroleum and Minerals College of Computer Science and Engineering

0

# Exploit Kashida Adding to Arabic e-Text for High Capacity Steganography



#### Ahmed A. AlNazer & Adnan A. Gutub

International Workshop on Frontiers of Information Assurance & Security (FIAS 2009) in conjunction with the IEEE 3rd International Conference on Network & System Security (NSS 2009) Gold Coast, Queensland, AUSTRALIA, 19-21 October 2009.



# Outline

- Objective
- Introduction
- Background
- Proposed Approach
- Improvement and Comparison
- Summary and Conclusion
- Future Work



# Objective

 To build a steganography schema and tool that maximize the capacity of Arabic Text cover media by maximizing the use of Kashida (Arabic extension letter) in all possible location to hide a secret.



#### Introduction

- Steganography is the ability to hide information in a cover media, e.g. pictures.
- Hiding information in text:
  - Challenging because of less un-used bits
  - Appreciated because of less size and the ease of transfer over the network.



# Background

- Different languages :- different properties.
- Arabic language:
  - 28 characters
  - Joined characters when writing words
  - Extension character (Kashida) may be embedded between two Arabic characters \*
- ب م الله ال رحم ن ال رحيم ...



# Background

- Pointed Letters and Kashida (by Dr. Gutub)
  - Adding extensions after pointed letters.
  - Adding extensions before pointed letters.



Low security, increase capacity \*

# Proposed Approach

- Studied Arabic letters to see their applicability to add Kashida.
- Built a steganography schema and tool to put Kashida whenever possible.
- Compare proposed approach with a previous approach in terms of capacity

# **Proposed Approach**

- Arabic letters applicability with Kashida
  - 35 keyboard letters can come after Kashida
    - 'س' 'ز' 'ر' 'ذ' 'د' 'خ' 'ح' 'ج' 'ث' 'ت' 'ة' 'ب' 'ا' 'ئ' 'إ' 'ؤ' 'أ' 'آ' 'ي' 'ي' 'و' 'ه' 'ن'م' 'ل' 'ك' 'ق' 'ف' 'غ' 'ع' 'ظ' 'ظ' 'ض' 'ص' 'ش'
  - 23 letters can come before Kashida
    - ·ع' ·ظ' ·ظ' ·ض' ·ص' ·ش' ·س' ·خ' ·ح' ·ج' ·ث' ·ت' ·ب' اي' اه' ·ن' ·م' ال' الح' اق' اف' ·غ'

# **Proposed Approach**

MSCUKAT								
Secret (string)	الخطبة الأولى الحث على العلم					<u>s</u>		
Read Secret From File	Secret File Name	:\Encryption\Encryption'	Secret (string) Lengtl	29				
Secret (bits)	11100100010000001000100110000000111010000							
Convert Secret To Bits	Secret (bits) Length	64	No. of Ones (1s)	130	Perc. of Ones	28.02		
Cover Media	ام وأشهد أن لا إله إلا الله بن لهم بإحسان ما تعاقبت لي والأيام وسلم تسليما	نقاصر دونه فهوم ذوي الأفع • وعلى آله وأصحابه والتابعي • الليا	مصالح العظيمة والحكم البالغة ما ت لأنام ومصباح الظلام صلى الله عليه	ستة أيام وجعل في ذلك من اا أن محمدا عبده ورسوله سيد	لماوات والأرض وما بينهما في لملك القدوس السلام وأشهد	الحمد لله الذي خلق الس وحده لا شريك له اا حده لا شريك له اا		
Read Cover Media from File	Cover File Name	:\Encryption\Encryption'	Cover Media Length	3713		Export to Text File		
Embed Secret								
Using Kashida (MSCUKAT)								
Output Text	الحمد لله الذي خلق السماوات والأرض وما بينهما في سنة أيام وجعل في ذلك من الممالح العظيمة والحكم البالغة ما تتقاصر دونه فهوم ذوي الأفهام وأشهب أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شـريك له الملك القدوس السـلام وأشهد أن محمدا عـبده ورسوله سيد الأنام ومـصباح الـظلام صلى الله عـلـيه وعلى أله وأصحابه والتابعـين لعد . بإحسان ما تعاقبت الـلـيالي والأيام وسلم تسـلـيه							
Capacity	1431	Percentage	38.54	Ex	port to Text File	Get Secret Back		
Secret (back)	الخطبة الأولى الحث على العلم					2		
Using Dotted Le	tters Kashida							
Output Text	الحمد لله الذي خلق السماوات والأرض وما بـــنهما في ستة أيام وجعل في ذلك من المصالح العظـيمة والحكم البالغة ما تتقاصر دونه فهوم ذوي الأفـهام وأشـهد أن لا إله إلا الل وحده لا شـريك له الملك القـدوس السلام وأشـهد أن محمدا عبده ورسوله سـيد الأـام ومصباح الظلام صلى الله عليه وعلى أله وأصحابه والتابعين لهم بإحسان ما تحاقبت أما بـعد أيها الناس : اتقوا ربكم واشــكروه على ما هداكم وعلمكم ما لم تـكونـوا تعلمون علمكم ما فيه صلاح دينكم وحياكم وحياكم والـعام والـعهد وله لا إله إلا الله عليه وعلى أله وأصحابه والتابعين لهم بإحسان ما تحاقبت أما بـعد أيها الناس : اتقوا ربكم واشــكروه على ما هداكم وعلمكم ما لم تـكونـوا تعلمون علمكم ما فـيه صلاح دينكم ودياكم وحب عنكم من العلم ما لا تدركه عقولكم ول							
Capacity	613	Percentage	16.51	Ex	port to Text File	Get Secret Back		
Secret (back)	الخطبة الأولى الحث على العلم					<		

- Experiment: data taken from 15 Khotbas (written religious speeches) in the literature with different length.
- Capacity comparison:
  - Using proposed method gives an average of 39% capacity
    - i.e. utilize 39% of the cover media to hide a secret
  - Using old method Kashida with dotted letters gives an average of 16% capacity.

#	Cover Media Length	MSCUKAT		Dotted Letters	
		Capacity	Per %	Capacity	Per %
1	2,357	861	40.88	1,653	21.29
2	2,503	845	41.66	1,785	19.72
3	2,905	977	36.03	1,649	21.35
4	2,990	909	38.72	1,741	20.22
5	3,137	962	36.59	1,681	20.94
6	3,337	997	35.31	1,883	18.69
7	3,591	924	38.10	1,677	20.99
8	3,656	933	37.73	1,622	21.70
9	3,689	873	40.32	1,639	21.48
10	3,713	930	37.85	1,751	20.10
11	3,747	894	39.37	1,784	19.73
12	3,794	921	38.22	1,606	21.92
13	3,893	855	41.17	1,603	21.96
14	4,040	932	37.77	1,728	20.37
15	5,567	880	40.00	1,623	21.69
	Average	39.00		21.00	



- Analysis:
  - Using proposed technique is giving 244% better than using old Kashida with dotted letters.
  - Limitation of the capacity of using Kashida with dotted letters affect the ability to hide a long secret in a limited size cover media.
  - This implies an advantage of using this proposed idea that it gives us more possibility to hide longer secrets.

- Analysis of the secret:
  - Studied the secret with different file sizes
  - Analyzed the number of Is in the secret and its percentage compared to secret size.
  - Opened a future work to better utilize the cover media to have more capacity.



# Summary and Conclusion

- Study of characteristics of Arabic letters and how Kashida can be embedded to answer the questions:
  - Is it proper to use Kashida whenever possible?
  - How many places in Arabic text can put Kashida?
- Steganography schema and tool to embed secret with maximum utilization of Kashida between Arabic letters.
  - Using proposed method is giving 244% better than using Kashida with dotted letters.



# Future Work

- Enhance the way of embedding Kashida
- Benefit of the less number of ones in the secret (27%)
- Encrypt the secret
- Use other file formats as secret

