Source Code-based Steganography

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Abstract

Steganography is an approach that aims hiding secret messages into a visible, readable carrier or cover. The secret message is typically not encrypted but it cannot be read by everyone because most of the people do not know that this stegotext contains secret messages and they do not know how to find it. The most common carrier types are images, audio and video files.

On this poster we present an approach that aims at steganography at the level of source code, written in different programming languages. Nowadays many open source development repositories are available, huge code legacies can be taken advatage of and internet portals gain popularity and offer opportunity to share hidden messages. However, these codes are sequence of characters that is not a typical medium of steganotext. We present different techniques that can be used for source code-based steganograpy. This means that behaviour of the code remains the same but it includes a hidden message. High-level programming languages support different constructs with the same result and we take advantage of these constructs. However, we cover general and specific techniques as well.

Keywords: Steganograpy, source code

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