

# **A novel structure of fast and efficient multiple image encryption**

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## **Abstract**

A huge volume of image data is created every day, and it requires a fast and efficient encryption to keep them confidential. A chaos-based encryption is considered as the most suitable one for image encryption, and multiple image encryption is one of approaches to achieve the fast and efficient performance. However, the existing methods of multiple image encryption is with a lack of diffusion effect, inefficiency in using random number generated by chaotic map, and low speed. In this paper, a novel structure of chaos-based encryption is proposed to encrypt multiple images at the same time, in which the permutation and diffusion are integrated and they share the same chaotic map. The exclusive-OR operation is chosen for calculation and data manipulation during encryption. Therefore, the proposed structure allows to improve the efficiency and to reduce the time consumption for the encryption. In addition, the chaotic map is perturbed frequently and its dynamics is dependent on the content of images. It creates the dynamical session key, so the proposed structure can resist from the types of chosen-plaintext and chosen-ciphertext attacks. Two exemplar ciphers employing the proposed structure are demonstrated with the use of Logistic and Standard maps. The simulation results will be analysed and compared with those of existing methods to show the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed structure of multiple image encryption.

**Keywords** Digital perturbed chaos · Perturbed chaotic map (PCM) · Chaos-based image encryption · Multiple image encryption (MIE)

## **1 Introduction**

Since chaos was discovered by E. Lorenz[\[35\]](#page-42-0), it has been explored and developed in many fields of science and engineering [\[44](#page-42-1)]. One of prominent applications of chaos in information engineering is the chaos-based cryptography [\[6](#page-41-0), [16](#page-41-1), [28,](#page-42-2) [31\]](#page-42-3). In fact, a chaos-based cryptography utilizes the complexity of dynamics [\[27\]](#page-42-4) rather than that of number theory and algebra

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as in the conventional cryptography. So far, many chaos-based image cryptosystems were proposed with various ranges of aspects, those employs from simple chaotic maps such as the Logistic map [\[30\]](#page-42-5) to highly complicated ones such as fractional-order hyperchaotic system  $[22]$  $[22]$ , from simple algorithms  $[6]$  to complicated ones e.g., quantum method  $[62, 63]$  $[62, 63]$  $[62, 63]$ , etc.

Nowadays the image data is massively created by the technological advances in image acquisition. Among them, there are a high volume of image data such as medical images needed to keep confidential, so it requires to have fast and efficient algorithms. For decades, chaos-based image encryption has been researched because it provides the advantages with simple implementation and high performance for the bulk data like images and multimedia data. On aspects of performance, there are three main approaches to have a fast and efficient chaos-based image encryption, i.e., suitable selection of plaintext for encryption (e.g. selective encryption), computational optimization of encryption algorithms, and structural optimization of encryption. Firstly, the selective encryption is to consider to encrypt only part of image data what significantly contributes to the visual structure [\[4](#page-41-2), [7](#page-41-3), [9,](#page-41-4) [26,](#page-42-7) [29](#page-42-8), [43,](#page-42-9) [53,](#page-43-2) [58\]](#page-43-3). However, the context of high security requires to encrypt all image data. Secondly, the computational optimization for the encryption algorithm is to choose the simple operators with low computation cost, switching mechanisms (e.g. DNA sequence [\[13,](#page-41-5) [29,](#page-42-8) [48](#page-42-10), [55\]](#page-43-4), look-up tables [\[10](#page-41-6), [24](#page-42-11)]), or dealing with blocks of pixels [\[8](#page-41-7), [15,](#page-41-8) [18,](#page-41-9) [54,](#page-43-5) [59](#page-43-6)]. Among them, the simplest way to enhance the speed of encryption algorithms is to choose the operators with low computational cost such exclusive-OR (XOR) and modulus in the digital platform, etc., for both the chaotic map and the ciphertext computation. However, most of existing encryption algorithms employ complicated operators such as multiplier, addition, cyclic shift, or even exponent. Thirdly, the structural optimization for an encryption algorithm is to arrange the entities in a cryptosystem in order to have high speed encryption. For example, the combination of permutation and diffusion (CPD) in the configuration of cryptosystem allows to reduce the number of access times to the data in the memory during encryption [\[10](#page-41-6), [12](#page-41-10), [14,](#page-41-11) [50\]](#page-43-7). However, all of existing encryption algorithms with the CPD were designed to encrypt a single image, so the efficiency of encryption is limited.

In addition, a chaotic map works as a pseudo-random number generator for chaos-based cryptosystems. Therefore, a fast and efficient encryption algorithm is achieved if pseudorandom numbers are used efficiently. In other words, for a certain number of bits generated by a chaotic map, the more pixels are encrypted, the more efficient cipher is. Multiple image encryption (MIE) is one of approaches to improve the efficiency for the chaos-based image encryption. Recently, there are several works on the MIE using chaos, e.g. [\[13](#page-41-5), [23,](#page-42-12) [25](#page-42-13), [32](#page-42-14), [36,](#page-42-15) [37,](#page-42-16) [39](#page-42-17), [40,](#page-42-18) [42](#page-42-19), [45,](#page-42-20) [46](#page-42-21), [48,](#page-42-10) [49](#page-42-22), [51,](#page-43-8) [57](#page-43-9)[–61,](#page-43-10) [63](#page-43-1)]. However, there are flaws in such the MIEs, i.e., a lack of diffusion effect in the encryption in [\[36](#page-42-15), [40](#page-42-18), [46,](#page-42-21) [48,](#page-42-10) [57](#page-43-9)[–60](#page-43-11), [60,](#page-43-11) [61\]](#page-43-10), inefficiency in using bits generated by the chaotic map with the permutation separated from the diffusion [\[37](#page-42-16)[–40,](#page-42-18) [46,](#page-42-21) [48](#page-42-10), [56](#page-43-12)[–58,](#page-43-3) [61,](#page-43-10) [63](#page-43-1)], choosing complicated computational operations [\[40](#page-42-18), [46,](#page-42-21) [48,](#page-42-10) [56](#page-43-12), [57,](#page-43-9) [60,](#page-43-11) [61](#page-43-10), [63\]](#page-43-1). In addition, all of existing algorithms of MIE are designed for single round of encryption, so it can be broken more easily than that with multiple rounds of encryption [\[3,](#page-41-12) [20\]](#page-42-23).

On aspects of security, Gonzalo Alvarez et. al. [\[1](#page-41-13), [2](#page-41-14)] suggested that the dynamics of a chaotic map must be complicated enough to assure the security. One of methods to achieve complicated dynamics of a chaotic map is to make the chaotic map perturbed. It is proved that a perturbed chaotic map (PCM) has dynamics more complicated than that of original one [\[33,](#page-42-24) [47\]](#page-42-25). However, all of existing methods employ algebraic operations for the perturbation, so it takes large time consumption during iteration of PCMs. Besides, most of existing algorithms of MIE use the static session key, in which the session key is constant during encryption.

Although the initial values of chaotic systems are calculated from the image content in terms of hash values as in [\[37](#page-42-16)[–40](#page-42-18), [56](#page-43-12)[–58](#page-43-3), [61\]](#page-43-10), the session key is not changed during encryption, or it is static. In contrast, the dynamical session key is changed during encryption. In fact, a chaos-based cryptosystem with the dynamical session key can resist from the types of chosenplaintext and chosen-ciphertext attacks. One of methods to have the dynamical session key is that the dynamics of chaotic map is involved by the image content during encryption as in [\[12,](#page-41-10) [17,](#page-41-15) [19,](#page-41-16) [21](#page-42-26), [34](#page-42-27), [41\]](#page-42-28).

Overall, the existing algorithms of MIE are with a lack of diffusion effect, inefficiency in using random number generated by chaotic map, and low speed. In this paper, a novel structure of chaos-based encryption is proposed to encrypt multiple images at the same time, in which the permutation and diffusion are integrated and they share the same chaotic map. The XOR operation is chosen for calculation and data manipulation during encryption. Therefore, the proposed structure allows to improve the efficiency and to reduce the time consumption for the encryption. In addition, the chaotic map is perturbed frequently and its dynamics is dependent on the content of images. It creates the dynamical session key, so the proposed structure can resist from the types of chosen-plaintext and known-plaintext attacks. Two exemplar ciphers employing the proposed structure are demonstrated with the use of Logistic and Standard maps. The simulation results will be analysed and compared with those of existing methods to show the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed structure of MIE.

This paper contributes the followings.

- 1. To gain high speed and efficiency: the permutation and diffusion is integrated; only one chaotic map is required; and only the XOR operation is used in both the perturbation of chaotic map and the encryption equations of pixels.
- 2. To achieve high security: the dynamical session key is generated by a chaotic map with non-stationary dynamics by means of perturbation; and the image content is involved in the generation of session key by means of the chaotic dynamics during encryption.

The rest of paper is organized as follows. The configuration and operation of the proposed structure are presented in Section [2.](#page-2-0) The specific example illustrates in Section [3](#page-9-0) with details about the simulation result, the statistical and security analyses, and the comparison with the results of existing methods. Section [4](#page-37-0) presents the discussion and conclusion of the work.

#### <span id="page-2-0"></span>**2 Proposed structure of MIE**

The configuration of the proposed structure of chaos-based MIE is illustrated in Fig. [1.](#page-3-0) Figure [1\(](#page-3-0)a) displays the model to integrate the permutation and diffusion, in which only one PCM is used. Figure [1\(](#page-3-0)b) shows the detail of the structure that the PCM provides chaotic values for the encryption and perturbed by pixel values. Pixels are shuffled and diffused one by one in every image.

#### **2.1 Perturbed chaotic map**

Here, the perturbed chaotic map [\[21\]](#page-42-26) is employed for the proposed structure. Figure [2](#page-3-1) illustrates the configuration of PCM, in which  $\Delta_{X_n}$  and  $\Delta_{\Gamma_n}$  are perturbation amounts applying to state variables and control parameters, respectively. There, *D* and *G* are the number of dimensions and that of control parameters, respectively.  $k_1$  is the length of the input bit



(b) Detail of proposed structure

<span id="page-3-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Proposed structure and its configuration

sequence *E*, and *R* is the number of chaotic iterations at which values of state variables are read for the encryption. Equations for a generic PCM are expressed as

<span id="page-3-2"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\nX_{n+1} = F(\hat{X}_n, \hat{\Gamma}_n), \\
\hat{X}_n = X_n \oplus \Delta_{X_n}, \\
\hat{\Gamma}_n = \Gamma_0 \oplus \Delta_{\Gamma_n},\n\end{cases} \tag{1}
$$

where  $F(.)$  is the chaotic function;  $X_n$ ,  $\hat{X}_n$ , and  $\hat{\Gamma}_n$  are the vectors of state variables, perturbed state variables, and perturbed control parameters, respectively;  $X_0$  and  $\Gamma_0$  are initial values



<span id="page-3-1"></span>**Fig. 2** The structure of PCM

of state variable and control parameter, respectively. Assumed that the PCM is implemented on the digital platform, so values of  $X_n$  and  $\Gamma_n$  are represented in the format of fixed-point number of  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  bits, respectively. The perturbation amounts are constructed by

<span id="page-4-1"></span>
$$
\Delta_{\Gamma_n} = \begin{cases} Y_1 \circ E & \text{for } n = 0; \\ Y_2 \circ X_n & \text{for } 1 \le n \le R, \end{cases} \tag{2}
$$

and

<span id="page-4-2"></span>
$$
\Delta_{X_n} = \begin{cases} Y_3 \circ E & \text{for } n = 0; \\ Y_4 \circ X_n & \text{for } 1 \le n \le R, \end{cases}
$$
 (3)

where  $n$  is current number of chaotic iterations;  $E$  is the external source represented by  $k_1$  bits and it can be constructed by bits of either initial values  $(kC_0^-$  and  $kP_0^+)$  or current values of pixels  $(p(i, j+1, k)$  and  $c(i, j-1, k)$ ,  $k = 1..K$ ; the rules of bit arrangement  $Y_i$ ,  $i = 1..4$ , are to construct the perturbation amounts; and ◦ is the operator of bit arrangement.

In the operation, the PCM is firstly initialized by  $\Gamma_0$  and  $X_0$ , then it iterates *R* times to produce chaotic values  $X_R$  for the encryption. It requires that values of  $\hat{\Gamma}_n$  and  $\hat{X}_n$  are always in the ranges such that the PCM exhibits chaotic behavior.

#### **2.2 Bit arrangement**

The bit arrangement rule *Y* is to construct new bit sequences from a given bit sequence. Assumed that *A* and *B* are bit matrices with the sizes  $I_A \times J_A$  and  $I_B \times J_B$ , i.e.,  $A =$  $[a_{ij}]_{1 \le i \le I_A, 1 \le j \le J_A}$  and  $B = [b_{ij}]_{1 \le i \le I_B, 1 \le j \le J_B}$ , and with  $a_{ij}, b_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$ . Bit matrix *A* is constructed from bits of matrix *B* by using the bit arrangement rule *Y* as

<span id="page-4-0"></span>
$$
A = Y \circ B. \tag{4}
$$

Here, the rule of bit arrangement is represented by an array of 2-tuples  $Y = (a)(b)$  $[(y_{ij}^{(r)}, y_{ij}^{(c)})]_{1 \le i \le I_A, 1 \le j \le J_A}$ , in which  $y_{ij}^{(r)}$  and  $y_{ij}^{(c)}$  are row and column indexes of matrix B with  $y_{ij}^{(r)} \in [1, I_B]$  and  $y_{ij}^{(c)} \in [1, J_B]$ . In fact, bits of A come from those of B as  $a_{ij} = b_{y_{ij}^{(r)} y_{ij}^{(c)}}$ . As special cases, bits in *A* can be deliberately fixed at the logic '0' or '1', and in those cases the 2-tuple  $(y_{ij}^{(r)}, y_{ij}^{(c)})$  is denoted by  $B_0$  and  $B_1$  for the logic '0' and '1', respectively.

In this work, the bit matrix  $B$  is a representation of chaotic values of  $X_n$ . Therefore, the bit matrix *A* can be used for constructing  $I_A$  bit sequences. Each bit sequence is a concatenation of bits in the same row of matrix *A*, i.e.  $A_i = \left| \int_{j=1}^{J_A} a_{i,j} \right|$ , where  $\left| \right|$  denotes for the bit concatenation.

For example, the chaotic value  $X_R = (3.4162, 1.1963)$  is represented in the format of fixed-point number with 18 bits as a whole and 16 bits for the fractional part (denoted as  $(18, 16)$ ). The value of  $X_R$  in binary is

$$
X_{bin} = \begin{pmatrix} 11.0110101010001010 \\ 01.0011001001000010 \end{pmatrix}.
$$
 (5)

Figure [3](#page-5-0) illustrates the operation of bit arrangement in Eq. [\(4\)](#page-4-0). The bit matrix *B* is a matrix representation of *Xbin*. As a result, the bit matrix *A* is obtained, and the bit sequences  $A_1 = 1011$  and  $A_2 = 1010$  are concatenation of bits in rows of *A* as described above.



<span id="page-5-0"></span>**Fig. 3** Example of bit arrangement

#### **2.3 Bit manipulation**

In this work, the block Bit manipulation (BM) in Fig. [1b](#page-3-0) performs combining two bit sequences  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ , so as to have a bit sequence  $E$ . Let us denote  $| \cdot |$  be the function returning the length of bit sequence, and  $\hat{\psi}$  be the bit-interleaving concatenation. In fact, the bit-interleaving concatenation can be any rule of bit interleaving of two bit sequences. There are three cases of relative length of *E*,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . If  $|E_1| + |E_2|$  =  $|E|$ , the BM is simply  $E = E_1 \oplus E_2$ . For two other cases of relative lengths, i.e.,  $|E_1|+|E_2| > |E|$  and  $|E_1|+|E_2| < |E|$ , in this work, the bit sequence *E* can be obtained by two simple procedures as followings. Respectively,  $T$  and  $T_i$  are denoted for the resultant bit sequence of interleaving and portion of *T* after division, respectively.

 $-$  Case 1: For  $|E_1| + |E_2| > |E|$ *Step 1*: Concatenate two bit sequences  $T = E_1 \oplus E_2$ . *Step 2*: Find integer *n* such that  $(n - 1) * |E| < |T| \le n * |E|$ . *Step 3*: Separate sequence *T* into *n* portions  $T_i$ ,  $i = \{1...n\}$ , such that  $|T_i| = |E|$  for  $i = 1..n - 1$  and the last portion  $T_n$  is with the length  $|T_n| \leq |E|$ . *Step 4*: Pad  $|E| - |T_n|$  bit zeros into sequence  $T_n$ . *Step 5*: Perform XORing the bits at the same position in the sequences as  $E = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} T_i$ .  $-$  Case 2: For  $|E_1| + |E_2| \leq |E|$ *Step 1*: Find integer *m* such that  $(m - 1) * (|E_1| + |E_2|) < |E| \le m * (|E_1| + |E_2|).$ 

*Step 2*: Concatenate *m* times  $E_1 \oplus E_2$  to get bit sequence *T*. Now, the relative length is  $|T| \ge |E|$ . At this point, Steps 2 to 5 in Case 1 are performed on bit sequence *T* to obtain bit sequence *E*.

#### <span id="page-5-1"></span>**2.4 Permutation and diffusion for a pair of pixels**

The permutation and diffusion are integrated in order to thoroughly exploit bits generated by the PCM. Assumed that the MIE performs encrypting *K* images at the same time and all images are with the same size. Let us denote 3-tuples  $(i, j, k)$  and  $(i', j', k')$  be the coordinates of source and destination pixels, respectively, with  $i, i' \in [1, M]$ ,  $j, j' \in [1, N]$  and  $k, k' \in$  $[1, K]$ . Specifically,  $p(i, j, k)$  and  $p(i', j', k')$  are the source plain pixel and destination pixel of images  $P_k$  and  $P_{k'}$ , respectively. Correspondingly,  $c(i, j, k)$  and  $c(i', j', k')$  are ciphered pixels of  $p(i, j, k)$  and  $p(i', j', k')$ , respectively. Also,  $\Phi_k = [\phi_{2,k}, \phi_{1,k}]$  ( $k = 1...K$ ) is denoted for the vector of values for the diffusion, where its members are constructed from bits of chaotic values. The permutation and diffusion for the encryption are carried out for every pair of pixels in *K* images by four steps as followings.

*Step 1*: For source pixels  $p(i, j, k)$ ,  $k = 1...K$ , calculate the coordinates of destination pixels,  $XY = \{XY_k | k = 1...K\}$ , and the vectors of values for the diffusion  $\Phi = \{\Phi_k | k = 1,...K\}$ 1...*K*} as

<span id="page-6-0"></span>
$$
\begin{cases}\nXY = Y_{XY} \circ X_R, \\
\Phi = Y_{\Phi} \circ X_R,\n\end{cases} \n\tag{6}
$$

where  $X_R$  is the vector of chaotic variables in binary what is generated by the PCM after *R* iterations;  $Y_{XY} = [Y_{XY_K}, Y_{XY_{K-1}}, ..., Y_{XY_1}]^T$  and  $Y_{\Phi} = [Y_{\Phi_K}, Y_{\Phi_{K-1}}, ..., Y_{\Phi_1}]^T$  are the rules of bit arrangements to extract bits from  $X_R$ . The member of  $Y_{XY}$  and  $Y_{\Phi}$  are  $Y_{XY_k}$  =  $[Y_i \ Y_j \ Y_k]^T$  and  $Y_{\Phi_k} = [Y_{\phi_{2,k}} \ Y_{\phi_{1,k}}]^T$  are to construct the coordinate of destination pixels  $XY_k = (i', j', k')$  for the permutation and random values  $\Phi_k = (\phi_{2,k}, \phi_{1,k})$  for the diffusion. Respectively, the coordinate of destination pixels  $XY_k$  and random values  $\Phi_k$  are calculated by

$$
\begin{cases}\ni' = Y_i \circ X_R, \\
j' = Y_j \circ X_R, \\
k' = Y_k \circ X_R,\n\end{cases} \tag{7}
$$

and

<span id="page-6-1"></span>
$$
\begin{cases} \phi_{2,k} = Y_{\phi_2} \circ X_R, \\ \phi_{1,k} = Y_{\phi_1} \circ X_R. \end{cases} \tag{8}
$$

*Step 2*: Compute the ciphered values for both source and destination pixels by XORing as

<span id="page-6-2"></span>
$$
\begin{cases} c(i, j, k) & = p(i, j, k) \oplus c(i, j - 1, k) \oplus \phi_{1,k}, \\ c(i', j', k') & = p(i', j', k') \oplus \phi_{2,k}. \end{cases} \tag{9}
$$

*Step 3*: Permute ciphered source and destination pixels as

$$
\begin{cases}\ntemp & = c(i, j, k), \\
c(i, j, k) & = c(i', j', k'), \\
c(i', j', k') = temp,\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(10)

where *temp* is a temporary variable. For the context of MIE, a pixel of an image can be permuted with another pixel in either the same image (intra-image permutation when  $k' = k$ ) or another image (inter-image when  $k' \neq k$ ) as shown in Fig. [4.](#page-7-0)

For the inverse permutation and inverse diffusion of a pair of pixels, the order to compute values of recovered plain pixels is inverse in compared with that in the encryption. Specifically, the decryption algorithm is as

*Step 1*: For source pixels  $p(i, j, k)$ ,  $k = 1...K$ , calculate the coordinates of destination pixels,  $XY = \{XY_k | k = 1...K\}$ , and the vectors of values for the diffusion  $\Phi = \{\Phi_k | k = 1,...K\}$ 1...*K* exactly identical to those given in  $(6)-(8)$  $(6)-(8)$  $(6)-(8)$ .

*Step 2*: Permute ciphered source and destination pixels as

$$
\begin{cases}\ntemp & = c(i, j, k), \\
c(i, j, k) & = c(i', j', k'), \\
c(i', j', k') = temp.\n\end{cases}
$$
\n(11)

*Step 3*: Compute the recovered plaintext values for both source and destination pixels as



<span id="page-7-0"></span>**Fig. 4** All possible destination pixels  $p(i', j', k')$  for source pixel  $p(i, j, k)$  in image  $P_k$ 

$$
\begin{cases} p(i, j, k) = c(i, j, k) \oplus c(i, j - 1, k) \oplus \phi_{1,k}, \\ p(i', j', k') = c(i', j', k') \oplus \phi_{2,k}. \end{cases}
$$
(12)

#### **2.5 Operation of encryption algorithm**

The proposed structure in Fig. [1\(](#page-3-0)b) operates with the flowchart as illustrated in Fig. [5\(](#page-8-0)a). There are three phases, i.e., chaos iteration, calculation of coordinates and values, and diffusion and permutation.

At first, the PCM in [\(1\)](#page-3-2) is iterated *R* times with its inputs  $\Gamma_0$ ,  $X_0$ , and  $E$ .  $\Gamma_0$  and  $X_0$  are interfered by *E* at every iteration number  $n = 0$  and by the feedback for  $1 \le n \le R$  as given in [\(2\)](#page-4-1) and [\(3\)](#page-4-2). The perturbation amount  $E$  is the result of bit manipulation with inputs  $E_1$ and  $E_2$  as

<span id="page-7-1"></span>
$$
E_1 = \begin{cases} ||_{k=1}^{K} c_{0,k} & \text{for } (i, j) = (1, 1), k = 1..K \text{ and } n_e = 1; \\ ||_{k=1}^{K} c(i, j-1, k) & \text{for } (i, j) \neq (1, 1), k = 1..K \text{ and } 2 \le n_e \le N_e, \end{cases}
$$
(13)

and

<span id="page-7-2"></span>
$$
E_2 = \begin{cases} ||_{k=1}^K p_{0,k} & \text{for } (i, j) = (M, N), k = 1..K \text{ and } n_e = N_e; \\ ||_{k=1}^K p(i, j+1, k) & \text{for } (i, j) \neq (M, N), k = 1..K \text{ and } 1 \le n_e < N_e, \end{cases} \tag{14}
$$

where  $||$  is the bit concatenation;  $n_e$  is number of encryption rounds;  $p(i, j+1, k)$  and  $c(i, j-1)$ 1, *k*) are neighbor plain and neighbor ciphered pixels of the current one  $p(i, j, k)$  in image *k* as depicted in Fig. [4;](#page-7-0)  $p_{0,k}$  and  $c_{0,k}$  are initial values for image  $k$ , and  $kC_0^- = \{c(0, k) | k = 1...K\}$ and  $k P_0^- = {c(0, k) | k = 1...K}$  are considered as part of the secret key. As illustrated in Figs. [1\(](#page-3-0)b) and  $5, kP^+ = \{p(i, j + 1, k)|k = 1...K\}$  $5, kP^+ = \{p(i, j + 1, k)|k = 1...K\}$  and  $kC^- = \{c(i, j - 1, k)|k = 1...K\}$ are vectors of neighbor plain pixels and neighbor ciphered pixels from *K* images.



<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Fig. 5** The flowchart of encryption and decryption algorithms

From  $(2)-(3)$  $(2)-(3)$  $(2)-(3)$  and  $(13)-(14)$  $(13)-(14)$  $(13)-(14)$ , the dynamics of PCM is involved by the content of plain and intermediate ciphered images by means of perturbation.

In the second phase, the coordinates of  $K$  destination pixels are computed as Step 1 in Subsection [2.4.](#page-5-1) In the third phase, the diffusion and permutation are performed as Steps 2 to 4 in Subsection [2.4.](#page-5-1)

In each encryption round, the source pixels from *K* images are scanned and processed sequentially from left to right and top to bottom of images. The encryption as a whole are repeated *Ne* times.

According to the procedure as described above, the configuration of the decryption is identical to that of the encryption as illustrated in Fig. [1\(](#page-3-0)b), but it is performed in reverse order. Specifically, the order of pixels is reverse in compared with that in the encryption, i.e. pixels from bottom to top and right to left. The flowchart of decryption algorithm is shown in Fig.  $5(b)$  $5(b)$ .

#### **Remarks for the design criteria:**

There are some important points in the proposed structure when it is employed in the design of a cryptosystem. Those are related to the criteria in choosing values of parameters for the design.

- 1. For the selection of chaotic map model: In fact, any chaotic map can be used for the proposed structure. However, the number of computational operations of a encryption algorithm is dependent on the complexity of chaotic map's model. Therefore, the criteria to choose a chaotic map model in the proposed structure is that the number of dimensions is as small as possible, but the number of flippable bits is large enough to construct the perturbation amounts, and other values for the encryption. Anyways, the number of bits representing for the fractional portion must greater than 32 to avoid the deterioration of dynamics of chaotic map.
- 2. For the bit arrangement rules *Y* : There are two types of bit arrangement in the proposed structure, i.e.,  $Y_i$  within the PCM and the set of  $Y_{XY}$  and  $Y_{\Phi}$  for the permutation and diffusion. Firstly,  $Y_i$  ( $i = 1..4$ ) are to construct the perturbation amounts to the PCM. The criteria for  $Y_i$  is that the PCM must work in chaotic behavior. So, they are chosen so that some bits at specific positions of values of control parameters and of state variables are fixed at the logic '0' or '1'. Secondly,  $Y_{XY}$  and  $Y_{\Phi}$  are to induce for coordinates of pixels in the permutation as well as for random values in the diffusion. In fact,  $Y_{XY}$  and  $Y_{\Phi}$  should be chosen so that pixels at the same coordinates should be shuffled with those at different destination coordinates and random values have a uniform distribution. Therefore, it is suggested in [\[21](#page-42-26)] that the bits at positions at least the fifth and beyond after the decimal point should be used for both the types of bit arrangements.
- 3. For the number of iterations *R*: In the proposed structure, the PCM is iterated *R* times before chaotic value  $X_R$  is used for the encryption. So, the value of  $R$  is chosen as small as possible to save the encryption time. In fact, if the PCM is set up to work in chaotic behavior, the value of *R* should be in the range of 1 to 5 is acceptable.

Next, the exemplar simulation using the proposed structure is carried out, then, the security analysis is shown.

## <span id="page-9-0"></span>**3 Exemplar simulation**

Let us consider the example with the use of two well-known chaotic maps, i.e. Logistic and Standard maps. Values of state variables and control parameters are represented in the format

Parameter	Format	# flippable bits	Bit pattern	Value range
$\gamma_n^{(1)}$	(34, 32)	30	11.11xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	[3.75.4.0]
$x_n^{(1)}$	(33, 32)	31	0.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx1	$[2^{-32}.1]$

<span id="page-10-0"></span>**Table 1** The bit patterns and value ranges of perturbed Logistic map

of fixed-point number. To avoid the degradation of chaotic orbits, the fraction portion of the chaotic value must be at least 32 bits. Here, the bit patterns for the state variables and control parameters are designated so that the PCMs exhibit the chaotic behavior.

### **3.1 Chosen PCMs**

#### **3.1.1 The perturbed Logistic map**

The perturbed Logistic map is expressed by

$$
x_{n+1}^{(1)} = \hat{\gamma}_n^{(1)} \hat{x}_n^{(1)} (1 - \hat{x}_n^{(1)}), \tag{15}
$$

where  $\gamma_n^{(1)}$  and  $x_n^{(1)}$  are the control parameter and the state variable, respectively; and perturbed state variable and control parameter are  $\hat{\gamma}_n^{(1)}$  and  $\hat{x}_n^{(1)}$ . The bit patterns for values of state variable and control parameter are chosen as given in Table [1.](#page-10-0) Notably, there are some bits being kept constant at '0' or '1' while 'x' is denoted for bits whose state can be flippable. The bit pattern of  $x_n^{(1)}$  with bit '1' at the rightmost is to ensure that the value of state variable is never got stuck at the unstable fixed point, i.e., 0.0.

The rules of bit arrangements are chosen for the perturbed Logistic map as given in Table [2.](#page-10-1)

#### **3.1.2 The perturbed standard map**

The perturbed Standard map is chosen as

$$
\begin{bmatrix} x_{n+1}^{(2)} \\ x_{n+1}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix} = MOD \left( \begin{bmatrix} \hat{x}_n^{(2)} + \hat{\gamma}_n^{(1)} sin(\hat{x}_n^{(2)} + \hat{x}_n^{(1)}) \\ \hat{x}_n^{(1)} + \hat{x}_n^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}, 2\pi \right)
$$
(16)

<span id="page-10-1"></span>



Parameter	Format	# flippable bits	Bit pattern	Value range
$\hat{\gamma}_n^{(1)}$	$\langle 35, 32 \rangle$	34	xx1.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx	[1.0, 8.0]
$\hat{x}_n^{(2)}$	$\langle 35, 32 \rangle$	- 34		$[2^{-32}.2\pi)$
$\hat{x}_n^{(1)}$	$(35, 32)$ 34		xxx.xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx1	$12^{-32} \cdot 2\pi$ )

<span id="page-11-0"></span>**Table 3** The bit patterns and value ranges of perturbed Standard map

where, the vectors of state variables and control parameter are  $X_n = [x_n^{(2)} \ x_n^{(1)}]^T$  and  $\Gamma_n = \gamma_n^{(1)}$ , respectively. Accordingly, the vectors of perturbed state variables and control parameter are  $\hat{X}_n = [\hat{x}_n^{(2)} \ \hat{x}_n^{(1)}]^T$  and  $\hat{\Gamma}_n = \hat{\gamma}_n^{(1)}$ .

The bit patterns for values of state variables and control parameter of the perturbed Standard map are chosen as shown in Table [3.](#page-11-0) Bit '1' in the bit pattern of the control parameter makes the value range discontinued in four sub-ranges, i.e., [1.0, 2.0), [3.0, 4.0), [5.0, 6.0) and [7.0, 8.0). It is noted that the right-most bits '1' in the bit patterns of state variables are to avoid the fixed point at (0, 0) of chaotic attractor.

The rules of bit arrangements are chosen for the perturbed Standard map as given in Table [4.](#page-12-0)

#### **3.2 Chosen values of parameters for MIE**

In this example, a set of 8 images ( $K = 8$ ) with the size of  $M = 256$ ,  $N = 256$  are encrypted at the same time, i.e. Lena, Cameraman, House, Boat, Clock, Black and White as in the first column of Fig. [6.](#page-13-0) Each pixel is represented in 8-bit grayscale, so  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are of 64 bits constructed by *kC*− and *k P*+ as given in [\(13\)](#page-7-1)–[\(14\)](#page-7-2). The required number of bits representing for *E* is dependent on the PCM for the MIE. As shown in Tables [1](#page-10-0) and [3,](#page-11-0) the number of flippable bits in the value representation of control parameters and state variables is 61 and 102 bits for the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps, respectively. The rules of bit arrangements for  $Y_i$  ( $i = 1..4$ ) of the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps are shown in Tables [2](#page-10-1) and [4,](#page-12-0) respectively.

The adopted values for the initial conditions of the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps are shown in Table [5.](#page-14-0) The value for  $kC_0^-$  and  $kP_0^+$  is chosen as in Table [6.](#page-14-1) Tables [7](#page-15-0) and [8](#page-16-0) show the bit arrangements  $Y_{XY_k} = [Y_i \ Y_j \ Y_k]^T$  and  $Y_{\Phi} = [Y_{\phi_1} \ Y_{\phi_2}]^T$  for inducing the coordinates of destination pixels  $(i', j', k')$  for the permutation and  $\Phi = [\phi_1 \ \phi_2]$  for the diffusion in each of PCMs. It is noted that the inter-image permutation is applied in the simulation.

#### **3.3 Simulation results**

The encrypted images using the proposed structure are carried out with the use of perturbed Logistic and Standard maps for the fixed number of chaotic iterations  $R = 5$  and various number of encryption rounds  $N_e = 1.5$ . To save the space, only those with the perturbed Logistic map are shown in Fig. [6,](#page-13-0) and those look like random images. Next, the quantitative estimation will be shown in the statistical analysis.



<span id="page-12-0"></span>Table 4 Bit arrangements in the perturbed Standard map **Table 4** Bit arrangements in the perturbed Standard map

Lena		(a) Original (b) $N_e = 1$ (c) $N_e = 2$ (d) $N_e = 3$ (e) $N_e = 4$ (f) $N_e = 5$			
Original (g)	(h) $N_e = 1$	(i) $N_e = 2$	(j) $N_e = 3$	(k) $N_e = 4$	(1) $N_e = 5$
Cameraman					
House		(m) Original (n) $N_e = 1$ (o) $N_e = 2$ (p) $N_e = 3$ (q) $N_e = 4$ (r) $N_e = 5$			
(s)		Original (t) $N_e = 1$ (u) $N_e = 2$ (v) $N_e = 3$ (w) $N_e = 4$ (x) $N_e = 5$			
Peppers					
(y) Original (z) $N_e = 1$		(aa) $N_e = 2$ (ab) $N_e = 3$ (ac) $N_e = 4$ (ad) $N_e = 5$			
Boat					
		(ae) Original (af) $N_e = 1$ (ag) $N_e = 2$ (ah) $N_e = 3$ (ai) $N_e = 4$ (aj) $N_e = 5$			
Clock					
Black		(ak) Original (al) $N_e = 1$ (am) $N_e = 2$ (an) $N_e = 3$ (ao) $N_e = 4$ (ap) $N_e = 5$			
White		(aq) Original (ar) $N_e = 1$ (as) $N_e = 2$ (at) $N_e = 3$ (au) $N_e = 4$ (av) $N_e = 5$			

<span id="page-13-0"></span>**Fig. 6** Encrypted images using the perturbed Logistic map with  $R = 5$  and various number of encryption rounds  $N_e = 1...5$ 

<b>PCM</b>	Parameter/ State variable	Value	Bit pattern
Logistic map	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	3.7599	11.11000010100010001100111001110000
	$x_0^{(1)}$	0.5599	0.10001111010101011001101100111101
Standard map	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	1.2299	001.00111010110110101011100111110101
	$x_0^{(2)}$	1.2299	001.00111010110110101011100111110101
	$x_0^{(1)}$	4.5599	100.10001111010101011001101100111101

<span id="page-14-0"></span>**Table 5** Initial values for simulation

#### <span id="page-14-2"></span>**3.4 Statistical analyses**

In order to confirm the feasibility of the proposed structure, the statistical analyses are considered for the simulation results. Histogram, information entropy and correlation of two adjacent pixels are measured for the encrypted images. In the context of multiple images, the average values are determined for the effectiveness of the MIE.

#### **3.4.1 Histogram analysis**

The distribution of pixel values of an image can be analysed and further analysis for the histogram can be measured by means of  $\chi^2$ . For a 8-bit grayscale image,  $\chi^2$  is calculated by

$$
\chi^2 = \sum_{i=0}^{255} \frac{(O_i - E_i)^2}{E_i},\tag{17}
$$

<span id="page-14-1"></span>

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	Bit arrangements
$Y_i$	$(1, 6)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 15)$ (1, 2) $(1, 5)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 29)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 21)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 21)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 7)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 7)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 27)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 30)$
$Y_i$	$(1, 5)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 21)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 29)$ $(1, 7)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 27)$ $(1, 32)$
$Y_k$	$(1, 19)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 5)$ (1, 3) $(1, 26)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 21)$
$Y_{\phi_1}$	$(1, 25)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 27)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 7)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 21)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 29)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 14)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 29)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 29)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 28)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 3)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 21)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 11)$
$Y_{\phi}$	$(1, 30)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 27)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 12)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 8)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 15)$ $(1,31)$ $(1,17)$ $(1,10)$ $(1,25)$ $(1,18)$ $(1,11)$ $(1,32)$ $(1,22)$ $(1, 7)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 25)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 32)$ $(1, 17)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 24)$ $(1, 20)$ $(1, 27)$ $(1, 30)$ $(1, 16)$ $(1, 19)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 5)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 11)$ $(1, 26)$ $(1, 31)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 2)$ $(1, 13)$ $(1, 22)$ $(1, 9)$ $(1, 18)$ $(1, 23)$ $(1, 4)$ $(1, 10)$ $(1, 6)$ $(1, 23)$

<span id="page-15-0"></span>**Table 7** Bit arrangements for permutation and diffusion of the MIE using the perturbed Logistic map

where the expected occurrence frequency  $E_i$  for the image with the size of  $M \times N$  is  $\frac{M*N}{256}$ ; the observed occurrence frequency  $O_i$  is the number of pixels with the value *i*. Here, the hypothesis test is accepted if  $\chi^2 \leq \chi^2_{\alpha}(255)$ ;  $\alpha$  is the significance level. Here, it is chosen as  $\alpha = 0.05$ , so  $\chi_{0.05}^2(255) = 293.247$ ; it means that the histogram is considered as a uniform distribution if  $\chi^2 \le 293.247$ .

Table [9](#page-17-0) shows the  $\chi^2$ -test results for the original and the ciphered images with various number of encryption rounds. For  $N_e \geq 3$ , the histogram of all individual encrypted images meets the condition of uniform distribution, i.e.,  $(\chi^2 \leq \chi^2_{0.05}(255))$ . Overall, the average values of  $\chi^2$  tests for the histogram analysis also indicate that the uniform distribution is obtained with  $N_e \geq 2$ .

<span id="page-16-0"></span>



### **3.4.2 Information entropy**

Information entropy (*IE*) of an image indicates the probability of pixel value  $v_i$ ,  $p(v_i)$ , for a 8-bit grayscale image and it is computed by

$$
IE = \sum_{i=0}^{255} p(v_i) \log_2 \frac{1}{p(v_i)} \quad \text{(bits)}.
$$
 (18)

It is expected that encrypted images have *I E* as close to the ideal value, i.e., 8 bits, as possible. Table [10](#page-18-0) displays the information entropy of original and encrypted images with various number of encryption rounds. *I E* of individual encrypted images and the averages

 $\hat{2}$  Springer

<span id="page-17-0"></span>

<span id="page-18-0"></span>



are very close to the ideal value, 8 bits, for any number of encryption rounds. For  $N_e \geq 2$ , the entropy is greater than 7.9962 and its average is 7.9972.

#### **3.4.3 Correlation of two adjacent pixels**

The correlation of two adjacent pixels can be measured by the correlation coefficient  $\rho_{X,Y}$ . For the grayscale image, the correlation coefficient is considered for pairs of adjacent pixels in three directions, i.e., horizontal, vertical and diagonal. An image with lower absolute values of correlation coefficients is more random in pixel values, or less visual structure. The equation for the Pearson correlation coefficient of two sequences *X* and *Y* is

$$
\rho_{X,Y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{pair}} (x_i - \overline{X})(y_i - \overline{Y})}{\sqrt{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{pair}} (x_i - \overline{X})^2\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{pair}} (y_i - \overline{Y})^2\right)}},\tag{19}
$$

where  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are values of adjacent pixels in the sequences *X* and *Y*, respectively;  $N_{pair}$ is the number of adjacent pixel pairs from an image;  $\overline{X}$  and  $\overline{Y}$  are the means of *X* and *Y* , respectively. The pairs of adjacent pixels are chosen in three directions, i.e., horizontal, vertical and diagonal.

Respectively, Tables [11,](#page-20-0) [12](#page-21-0) and [13](#page-22-0) show the correlation coefficients in horizontal, vertical and diagonal of original and ciphered images with various number of encryption rounds. Obviously, the correlation coefficients of encrypted images are very small and significantly less than those of original images in every direction. It means that the visual structure of original images are completely removed in the ciphered images. The average values of correlation coefficients are also relatively small and those fluctuate around zero regardless of number of encryption rounds with both PCMs.

#### **3.5 Security analyses**

Below is the security analyses based on the space of secret key, the sensitivity of secret key, and the sensity of plaintext. It is noted from the tables that if values are displayed in italic, those are not passed the random test.

#### **3.5.1 Space of secret key**

In the proposed structure, the secret key consists of the initial values of  $\Gamma_0$  and  $X_0$ , as well as those of  $k_0$ <sup>-</sup> and  $k_0$ <sup>+</sup>. For the initial values of PCMs, only flippable bits in the state variables and control parameters are counted for the space of secret key. The number of bits for  $kC_0^-$  and  $kP_0^+$  is dependent on the number of images *K* and number of bits representing for a pixel.

According to Tables [1](#page-10-0) and [3,](#page-11-0) the number of flippable bits in the initial values of Logistic and Standard maps is 61 and 102 bits, respectively. Also, the number of bits representing for initial values of  $kC_0^-$  and  $kP_0^+$  is 128 bits for eight images with each pixel of 8-bit grayscale. So, the space of secret key of the cryptosystems is  $2^{189}$  and  $2^{230}$  for Logistic and Standard maps, respectively. With these numbers of key space, the exemplar cryptosystems are secured with modern computers.

<span id="page-20-0"></span>

<span id="page-21-0"></span>



<span id="page-22-0"></span>Table 13 Correlation coefficients of diagonal direction

#### <span id="page-23-1"></span>**3.5.2 Sensitivity of secret key**

The sensitivity of secret key can be measured for the difference between two versions of ciphertexts being encrypted by two secret keys. Among two secret keys, one secret key is obtained with little modification to the other one. The number of pixels change rate (*N PCR*) and unified averaged changed intensity (*U AC I*) are used for evaluating the sensitivity of secret key.

Let us call  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  be ciphertexts obtained by encrypting the same plaintext using two secret keys *S* and *S'*, respectively. The modified secret key is  $S' = S + \Delta_S$ . Here,  $\Delta_S$  is the tolerance of one certain element of secret key, and  $\Delta_S$  is smallest value but larger than zero. Here, Tables [14](#page-23-0) and [15](#page-24-0) show original and modified secret keys for the simulation of sensitivity of secret key. Tables [16](#page-24-1) and [17](#page-25-0) display the tolerance of secret key  $\Delta_S$  for the values of initial state variables, control parameters, plaintexts and ciphertexts. In order to measure the sensitivity of small changes in the secret key, the simulation is carried out for each tolerance individually while the others are kept intact as defined in Tables [5](#page-14-0) and [6.](#page-14-1)

Let us consider the difference between two images  $C_1$  and  $C_2$ . Firstly, the difference function between two values *a* and *b* is  $Difp(a, b)$  defined by

$$
Dif p(a, b) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } a \neq b; \\ 0, & \text{for } a = b. \end{cases} \tag{20}
$$

Secondly, the difference between two images  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  is considered by the difference for every pair of pixels at the same position  $(i, j)$ , i.e.,  $C_1(i, j)$  and  $C_2(i, j)$  for  $i = 1...M$ and  $j = 1..N$ . The *NPCR* and *UACI* are measured by

$$
NPCR = \frac{\sum_{i,j} Difp(C_1(i, j), C_2(i, j))}{M \times N} \times 100\%,
$$
 (21)

and

$$
UACI = \frac{1}{M \times N} \left[ \sum_{i,j} \frac{|C_1(i,j) - C_2(i,j)|}{255} \right] \times 100\%.
$$
 (22)

<span id="page-23-0"></span>**Table 14** The original value of secret key and its modified versions for the perturbed Logistic map

Value of secret key	Elements of secret key			
S	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{x_{0}^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)} + \Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{\chi_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)} - \Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)} + \Delta_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)} - \Delta_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_k P_0$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$p_{0,1} + \Delta_{p_{0,1}}$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_k P_0$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$p_{0,1} + \Delta_{p_{0,1}}$	$kC_0$
$S+\Delta S_{k}C_{0}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	
$S - \Delta S_k C_0$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$c_{0,1} + \Delta_{c_{0,1}}$ $c_{0,1} - \Delta_{c_{0,1}}$

Value of secret key	Elements of secret key				
S	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{x_{0}^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)} + \Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{x_{0}^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)} - \Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{\chi_0^{(2)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)} + \Delta_{x_0^{(2)}}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{x_0^{(2)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)} - \Delta_{x_0^{(2)}}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}+\Delta_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma^{(1)}_0-\Delta_{\gamma^{(1)}_0}$	$kP_0$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{kP_0}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$p_{0,1} + \Delta_{p_{0,1}}$	$kC_0$
$S - \Delta S_{kP_0}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$p_{0,1} - \Delta_{p_{0,1}}$	$kC_0$
$S + \Delta S_{kC_0}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$c_{0,1} + \Delta_{c_{0,1}}$
$S - \Delta S_{kC_0}$	$x_0^{(1)}$	$x_0^{(2)}$	$\gamma_0^{(1)}$	$kP_0$	$c_{0,1} - \Delta_{c_{0,1}}$

<span id="page-24-0"></span>**Table 15** The original value of secret key and its modified versions for the perturbed Standard map

In this work, *N PCR* and *U AC I* are tested for the randomness in response to the small change in the secret key with a significance level  $\alpha$  for 8-bit grayscale images of the size  $256 \times 256$  as presented in [\[52\]](#page-43-13). The randomness tests are passed if *NRCP* > *NRCP*<sup>\*</sup> and  $UACI_{\alpha}^{*-} < UACI < UACI_{\alpha}^{*+}$ . The critical values at  $\alpha = 0.05$  for both *NPCR* and *UACI* are *NRC*  $P_{0.05}^{*} = 99.5693\%$ , *UACI*<sub> $_{0.05}^{*=} = 33.2824\%$  and *UACI*<sub> $_{0.05}^{*=} = 33.6447\%$ .</sub></sub>

Tables [18](#page-26-0) and [20](#page-28-0) present *N PCR* for the sensitivity of secret key with the use of perturbed Logistic and Standard maps, respectively. It is almost insensitive to a small change in  $k P_0^+$ . For the rest of state variables and control parameters, more than 98.639% and 99.300% pixels of ciphertexts are changed due to the tolerance S' in the modified secret key in the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps, respectively. Except for  $kP_0^+$ , all individual and averaged values of *N PCR* are passed the random test (or greater than *NRC P*<sup>\*</sup><sub>α</sub>) for  $N_e \ge 2$ . In other words, the cryptosystems employing the proposed structure using the perturbed Logistic and Cat, Standard maps are with high sensitivity to the secret key.

<b>PCM</b>	Parameter/State variable	Value	Bit pattern of $\Delta S$
Logistic map	$\Delta_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$+2^{-32}$	
	$\Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$+2^{-31}$	
Standard map	$\Delta_{\gamma_0^{(1)}}$	$-2^{-32}$	
	$\Delta_{x_0^{(2)}}$	$+2^{-31}$	
	$\Delta_{x_0^{(1)}}$	$+2^{-31}$	

<span id="page-24-1"></span>**Table 16** Tolerance in the value of state variables and control parameters for *N PCR* and *U AC I*

<span id="page-25-0"></span>

In addition, the change in the intensity *U AC I* for the sensitivity of secret key with the use of perturbed Logistic and Standard maps for each element of secret key is also seen in Tables [19](#page-27-0) and [21,](#page-29-0) respectively. Similar to the *NCPR*, for  $N_e \ge 2$ , all values of *UACI* and its averages are passed the random tests, or the values of *U AC I* are within in the range of  $(33.2824\%, 33.6447\%)$  with  $\alpha = 0.05$  for all of perturbed Logistic and Standard maps.

As seen from Tables [18,](#page-26-0) [19,](#page-27-0) [20,](#page-28-0) and [21](#page-29-0) for both *N PCR* and *U AC I*, the cryptosystem using any PCMs is almost insensitivity to  $k P_0^+$ . According to [\(14\)](#page-7-2), the value of  $k P_0^+$  is only used for the last pixels of plain images in the last round of encryption. As given in Table [17,](#page-25-0) the tolerance is occurred for the last pixel of only one of eight images. This makes a few pixels related to the tolerance of  $kP_0^+$  changed in the final round of encryption. However, the encryption is highly sensitive to *k*C<sub>0</sub><sup>−</sup>. That is because the encryption is the forward direction of pixel scanning. Therefore, the decryption is the reverse direction, so it will be highly sensitive to  $k P_0^+$  and insensitive to  $k C_0^-$ . The sensitivity of  $k C_0^-$  and  $k P_0^+$  is significant, but it is asymmetry in the encryption and decryption.

#### **3.5.3 Sensitivity of plaintext**

A cryptosystem can resist from the types of known-plaintext and chosen-plaintext attacks if its sensitivity of plaintext is significant. In general, the original image is with little modification to become the modified plain image. Both the original and modified plain images are encrypted using the same value of secret key to produce two ciphered images. Sensitivity of the plaintext is obtained by means of statistical comparison between such two ciphered images. In this work, due to the encryption of multiple images at the same time, a set of modified images for analysis consists of one modified image and other original ones. The modified image is chosen alternatively among eight original images. Therefore, there are eight sets of modified plain images as listed in Table [22.](#page-31-0) Encryption is carried out for the set of original images

<span id="page-26-0"></span>**Table 18** Sensitivity of the secret key by means of *N PCR* with the perturbed Logistic map



<span id="page-27-0"></span>

#### **Table 19** continued



<span id="page-28-0"></span>**Table 20** Sensitivity of the secret key by means of *N PCR* with the perturbed Standard map





<span id="page-29-0"></span>







and eight sets of modified plain images separately for analysis. To analyze the sensitivity of plaintext on a certain plain image, every pair of ciphered images obtained by encrypting two sets (original and modified images) are compared reciprocally. Then, average values are calculated for every pair of sets for comparison.

Here, the modification is made to only one pixel to get a modified image. Because the direction of pixel scanning in the encryption is left to right and top to bottom, the last pixels of original images,  $p(255, 255, k)$  for  $k = 1..K$ , are chosen to modify for each sets. The chosen pixels are either added 1 to if their values are less than 255 or subtracted 1 from if their values are equal to 255. With the direction of pixel scanning, the modification of the last pixel makes less affect to other pixels in the first encryption round.

The sensitivity of plaintext is measured by means of *N PCR* and *U AC I*. The randomness test is also examined for the uniform distribution similar to that in Subsection [3.5.2.](#page-23-1) Tables [23,](#page-32-0) [24,](#page-33-0) [25,](#page-34-0) and [26](#page-35-0) show the values of *NCPR* and *U AC I* and its averages using the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps, respectively. In the first round of encryption, all randomness tests for both *N PCR* and *U AC I* are not passed for all cases of chaotic maps. From the second round of encryption and beyond, all values of *N PCR* and *U AC I* are passed the randomness tests. Importantly, all the average values of *N PCR* and *U AC I* are also satisfied the condition to pass the randomness tests, i.e. *N PCR<sub>avg</sub>* > 99.5693 and *U ACI<sub>avg</sub>*  $\in$  (33.2824, 33.6447).



<span id="page-31-0"></span>

<span id="page-32-0"></span>



$N_e$	Images	Lena	$NPCR(\%)$ for the sensitivity on Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	Black	White
	Clock	99.591	99.632	99.617	99.634	99.628	99.620	99.605	99.606
	<b>Black</b>	99.652	99.672	99.590	99.605	99.596	99.602	99.635	99.588
	White	99.636	99.603	99.656	99.612	99.629	99.629	99.623	99.660
	On average	99.622	99.628	99.615	99.612	99.612	99.598	99.610	99.605

**Table 23** continued

<span id="page-33-0"></span>**Table 24** Sensitivity of the plaintext by means of *U AC I* using the perturbed Logistic map

$N_e$	Images	Lena	$UACI$ (%) for the sensitivity on Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	<b>Black</b>	White
$\mathbf{1}$	Lena	31.908	14.224	31.918	31.781	28.779	0.003	27.661	32.028
	Cameraman	31.855	16.258	31.920	31.510	28.999	0.004	28.198	31.854
	House	31.689	12.105	31.763	31.448	28.203	0.003	26.968	31.681
	Peppers	31.620	12.817	31.874	31.552	28.409	0.004	27.064	31.941
	Boat	32.091	16.668	32.207	32.080	29.359	0.003	28.181	32.201
	Clock	32.659	19.689	32.604	32.475	31.037	0.003	29.978	32.784
	<b>Black</b>	31.823	14.212	31.869	31.646	28.815	0.002	27.614	31.966
	White	30.918	13.065	30.897	30.786	27.820	0.004	26.603	31.025
	On average	31.820	14.880	31.882	31.660	28.928	0.003	27.783	31.935
2	Lena	33.458	33.333	33.418	33.604	33.508	33.378	33.471	33.513
	Cameraman	33.439	33.432	33.626	33.488	33.453	33.447	33.618	33.534
	House	33.550	33.570	33.498	33.412	33.495	33.424	33.596	33.521
	Peppers	33.384	33.410	33.485	33.565	33.623	33.561	33.458	33.482
	Boat	33.528	33.320	33.548	33.463	33.395	33.556	33.480	33.547
	Clock	33.327	33.415	33.381	33.356	33.386	33.505	33.456	33.463
	<b>Black</b>	33.469	33.482	33.387	33.407	33.468	33.429	33.454	33.466
	White	33.352	33.623	33.473	33.382	33.408	33.429	33.608	33.511
	On average	33.438	33.448	33.477	33.460	33.467	33.466	33.518	33.505
3	Lena	33.442	33.376	33.630	33.516	33.630	33.580	33.369	33.610
	Cameraman	33.367	33.513	33.502	33.465	33.533	33.598	33.596	33.428
	House	33.432	33.376	33.396	33.514	33.476	33.401	33.403	33.395
	Peppers	33.591	33.613	33.318	33.587	33.401	33.470	33.483	33.539
	Boat	33.482	33.512	33.432	33.469	33.473	33.286	33.433	33.372
	Clock	33.460	33.572	33.360	33.580	33.424	33.351	33.513	33.417
	<b>Black</b>	33.525	33.598	33.424	33.339	33.480	33.430	33.495	33.364
	White	33.417	33.556	33.373	33.516	33.413	33.563	33.455	33.469
	On average	33.465	33.515	33.429	33.498	33.479	33.460	33.468	33.449
$\overline{4}$	Lena	33.518	33.417	33.570	33.597	33.617	33.434	33.496	33.601
	Cameraman	33.396	33.467	33.516	33.535	33.453	33.482	33.490	33.302
	House	33.509	33.541	33.418	33.571	33.468	33.465	33.394	33.507
	Peppers	33.420	33.602	33.472	33.368	33.497	33.334	33.368	33.414
	Boat	33.488	33.446	33.391	33.536	33.394	33.463	33.481	33.577

$N_e$	Images	Lena	$UACI$ (%) for the sensitivity on Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	Black	White
	Clock	33.501	33.499	33.622	33.349	33.525	33.481	33.334	33.518
	<b>Black</b>	33.446	33.400	33.471	33.535	33.529	33.491	33.561	33.475
	White	33.489	33.451	33.458	33.514	33.523	33.361	33.408	33.536
	On average	33.471	33.478	33.490	33.501	33.501	33.439	33.442	33.491
5	Lena	33.472	33.524	33.602	33.588	33.424	33.495	33.314	33.377
	Cameraman	33.384	33.452	33.508	33.367	33.444	33.423	33.465	33.550
	House	33.524	33.430	33.482	33.393	33.478	33.535	33.317	33.356
	Peppers	33.506	33.487	33.500	33.494	33.589	33.516	33.380	33.377
	Boat	33.609	33.389	33.466	33.487	33.445	33.505	33.564	33.446
	Clock	33.490	33.343	33.399	33.365	33.354	33.502	33.419	33.354
	<b>Black</b>	33.526	33.463	33.305	33.436	33.339	33.478	33.478	33.493
	White	33.576	33.441	33.533	33.604	33.426	33.409	33.611	33.505
	On average	33.511	33.441	33.474	33.467	33.437	33.483	33.444	33.432

**Table 24** continued

<span id="page-34-0"></span>**Table 25** Sensitivity of the plaintext by means of *N PCR* using the perturbed Standard map

$N_e$ 1			$NPCR(\%)$ for the sensitivity on						
	Images	Lena	Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	<b>Black</b>	White
	Lena	88.344	93.297	68.153	94.684	5.080	98.892	0.009	0.009
	Cameraman	91.721	95.140	76.227	96.167	5.150	99.176	0.009	0.009
	House	88.341	93.253	68.074	94.688	5.034	98.970	0.009	0.009
	Peppers	86.403	92.166	63.039	93.866	4.741	98.817	0.009	0.009
	Boat	91.676	95.181	75.928	96.167	5.135	99.121	0.008	0.008
	Clock	91.632	95.171	76.118	96.173	5.116	99.132	0.009	0.009
	<b>Black</b>	88.194	93.265	67.233	94.664	4.999	98.956	0.009	0.008
	White	91.446	94.971	75.986	95.966	5.124	98.894	0.009	0.009
	On average	89.720	94.056	71.345	95.297	5.047	98.995	0.009	0.009
2	Lena	99.591	99.611	99.605	99.611	99.588	99.612	99.608	99.614
	Cameraman	99.588	99.597	99.615	99.643	99.631	99.652	99.617	99.600
	House	99.619	99.596	99.574	99.619	99.590	99.622	99.577	99.629
	Peppers	99.576	99.642	99.626	99.631	99.602	99.629	99.602	99.590
	Boat	99.611	99.608	99.608	99.597	99.660	99.654	99.582	99.615
	Clock	99.608	99.617	99.612	99.625	99.623	99.629	99.593	99.608
	<b>Black</b>	99.663	99.597	99.643	99.612	99.611	99.611	99.628	99.628
	White	99.629	99.628	99.580	99.632	99.600	99.614	99.597	99.649
	On average	99.611	99.612	99.608	99.621	99.613	99.628	99.601	99.617
3	Lena	99.600	99.576	99.631	99.594	99.628	99.615	99.603	99.660
	Cameraman	99.603	99.612	99.594	99.605	99.570	99.588	99.612	99.580
	House	99.588	99.615	99.680	99.637	99.611	99.612	99.615	99.625
	Peppers	99.638	99.579	99.596	99.626	99.617	99.615	99.603	99.628
	Boat	99.605	99.667	99.582	99.590	99.597	99.631	99.662	99.643

	Images	$NPCR(\%)$ for the sensitivity on							
$N_e$		Lena	Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	<b>Black</b>	White
	Clock	99.646	99.606	99.652	99.622	99.612	99.609	99.625	99.643
	<b>Black</b>	99.657	99.629	99.640	99.626	99.606	99.609	99.620	99.619
	White	99.590	99.614	99.626	99.619	99.582	99.609	99.629	99.614
	On average	99.616	99.612	99.625	99.615	99.603	99.611	99.621	99.627
$\overline{4}$	Lena	99.591	99.664	99.673	99.664	99.612	99.663	99.599	99.590
	Cameraman	99.600	99.590	99.596	99.605	99.622	99.596	99.599	99.606
	House	99.612	99.603	99.652	99.609	99.665	99.591	99.579	99.602
	Peppers	99.619	99.602	99.583	99.571	99.634	99.635	99.626	99.606
	Boat	99.571	99.614	99.609	99.580	99.605	99.628	99.638	99.593
	Clock	99.649	99.603	99.638	99.594	99.611	99.664	99.628	99.617
	<b>Black</b>	99.612	99.612	99.611	99.617	99.628	99.614	99.634	99.620
	White	99.614	99.574	99.570	99.628	99.669	99.608	99.617	99.608
	On average	99.609	99.608	99.617	99.609	99.631	99.625	99.615	99.605
5	Lena	99.606	99.603	99.582	99.660	99.580	99.626	99.640	99.623
	Cameraman	99.626	99.594	99.579	99.641	99.629	99.591	99.625	99.631
	House	99.634	99.570	99.620	99.625	99.632	99.612	99.594	99.590
	Peppers	99.596	99.634	99.580	99.640	99.662	99.615	99.588	99.612
	Boat	99.608	99.588	99.620	99.632	99.637	99.590	99.594	99.594
	Clock	99.590	99.605	99.648	99.586	99.620	99.582	99.664	99.620
	<b>Black</b>	99.600	99.579	99.588	99.586	99.668	99.588	99.603	99.594
	White	99.628	99.635	99.614	99.622	99.590	99.573	99.615	99.603
	On average	99.611	99.601	99.604	99.624	99.627	99.597	99.615	99.608

**Table 25** continued

<span id="page-35-0"></span>**Table 26** Sensitivity of the plaintext by means of *U AC I* using the perturbed Standard map

		$UACI$ (%) for the sensitivity on							
$N_e$	Images	Lena	Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	<b>Black</b>	White
1	Lena	29.782	31.267	23.008	31.703	1.703	33.174	0.003	0.005
	Cameraman	30.784	32.085	25.667	32.356	1.750	33.442	0.003	0.003
	House	29.590	31.301	22.861	31.799	1.720	33.141	0.003	0.003
	Peppers	29.077	30,906	21.199	31.456	1.622	33.237	0.002	0.003
	Boat	30.529	31.743	25.392	32.128	1.739	33.201	0.003	0.002
	Clock	30.907	31.735	25.454	32.153	1.718	33.183	0.003	0.004
	<b>Black</b>	29.691	31.297	22.578	31.802	1.688	33.318	0.003	0.003
	White	29.972	31.146	24.577	31.236	1.595	32.360	0.003	0.001
	On average	30.042	31.435	23.842	31.829	1.692	33.132	0.003	0.003
2	Lena	33.500	33.576	33.408	33.581	33.334	33.380	33.393	33.379
	Cameraman	33.514	33.350	33.471	33.460	33.378	33.506	33.468	33.512
	House	33.513	33.292	33.523	33.442	33.496	33.445	33.528	33.435
	Peppers	33.414	33.473	33.391	33.574	33.372	33.403	33.435	33.523
	Boat	33.511	33.623	33.603	33.505	33.520	33.466	33.558	33.502

		$UACI$ (%) for the sensitivity on							
$N_e$	Images	Lena	Cameramen	House	Peppers	Boat	Clock	<b>Black</b>	White
	Clock	33.501	33.520	33.387	33.536	33.536	33.586	33.375	33.407
	<b>Black</b>	33.304	33.294	33.491	33.375	33.524	33.363	33.323	33.551
	White	33.530	33.434	33.564	33.484	33.458	33.451	33.566	33.537
	On average	33.473	33.445	33.480	33.495	33.452	33.450	33.456	33.481
3	Lena	33.568	33.535	33.578	33.629	33.637	33.587	33.563	33.555
	Cameraman	33.480	33.389	33.508	33.603	33.440	33.520	33.622	33.496
	House	33.348	33.518	33.414	33.580	33.530	33.482	33.544	33.500
	Peppers	33.299	33.340	33.337	33.546	33.538	33.412	33.307	33.397
	Boat	33.562	33.391	33.344	33.537	33.405	33.478	33.336	33.497
	Clock	33.431	33.573	33.386	33.484	33.511	33.381	33.520	33.504
	<b>Black</b>	33.415	33.560	33.468	33.626	33.511	33.378	33.429	33.482
	White	33.354	33.302	33.404	33.542	33.330	33.553	33.521	33.423
	On average	33.432	33.451	33.430	33.568	33.488	33.474	33.480	33.482
$\overline{4}$	Lena	33.471	33.483	33.485	33.493	33.532	33.527	33.519	33.438
	Cameraman	33.644	33.427	33.543	33.400	33.398	33.461	33.420	33.573
	House	33.382	33.610	33.551	33.452	33.518	33.493	33.581	33.618
	Peppers	33.494	33.643	33.495	33.530	33.453	33.448	33.408	33.512
	Boat	33.608	33.483	33.418	33.528	33.562	33.357	33.550	33.521
	Clock	33.550	33.379	33.345	33.435	33.546	33.487	33.410	33.453
	<b>Black</b>	33.428	33.523	33.481	33.535	33.338	33.377	33.462	33.461
	White	33.388	33.545	33.420	33.570	33.493	33.629	33.290	33.609
	On average	33.496	33.512	33.467	33.493	33.480	33.472	33.455	33.523
5	Lena	33.485	33.482	33.418	33.494	33.512	33.491	33.591	33.572
	Cameraman	33.371	33.549	33.490	33.451	33.457	33.588	33.465	33.391
	House	33.445	33.392	33.420	33.341	33.487	33.549	33.561	33.505
	Peppers	33.522	33.528	33.424	33.479	33.321	33.520	33.450	33.455
	Boat	33.512	33.522	33.621	33.595	33.534	33.457	33.493	33.569
	Clock	33.608	33.425	33.494	33.499	33.404	33.594	33.430	33.553
	<b>Black</b>	33.567	33.453	33.370	33.414	33.511	33.443	33.435	33.393
	White	33.475	33.461	33.472	33.545	33.565	33.399	33.386	33.465
	On average	33.498	33.477	33.464	33.477	33.474	33.505	33.476	33.488

**Table 26** continued

In summary, the sensitivity of plaintext is significant for the perturbed Logistic and Standard maps for  $N_e \geq 2$ . In fact, that must be higher in the first round of encryption if the modified pixels are as close as the first pixels of images, i.e.  $p(1, 1, k)$  for  $k = 1..K$ .

### **3.6 Comparison with existing methods of MIE**

#### **3.6.1 The statistical results and security**

In this section, the results obtained from the exemplar simulation using the proposed structure are compared with those of existing, recent methods of MIE, in terms of statistical analysis and security analysis. Here, the values obtained on the exemplar simulation at  $N_e \geq 2$  are used the comparison as shown in Table [27.](#page-38-0) In fact, the effectiveness of the proposed structure can be seen via the comparison that most of the results from the examples using the proposed structure are almost comparable to those from the existing methods, except for the space of secret key. Even though the comparable result is obtained in the exemplar simulation, the cryptosystem requires number of encryption rounds  $N_e \geq 3$  because of requirements of statistical analyses in Subsection [3.4.](#page-14-2) In practice, the space of secret key of chaos-based cryptosystem in these examples can be easily extended by increasing the number of bits representing for the fractional part in the fixed-point number for the value of state variables and control parameters. More information about the space of secret key and efficiency of the proposed structure will be discussed in Section [4.](#page-37-0)

#### **3.6.2 The computational cost**

It is noted that all the existing methods of MIE were designed for a single round of encryption. For a fair comparison, the required computational resource of the proposed structure is considered for an individual round of encryption. Here, the computational resource is in terms of the number of operations as well as the amount of memory.

Table [28](#page-40-0) presents the required computational resource of the proposed structure and existing methods of MIE. Here, only the significant number of operations and the significant amount of memory in byte that are dependent on the size of inputs are retained. Overall, the required amounts of computational resource for the proposed structure are less than most of existing methods of MIE. In fact, the number of operations for the chaotic iterations in the proposed structure is greater than that of  $[40]$  and  $[39]$ , but the number of operations for others is significantly less than those in the mentioned works. Besides, the proposed structure requires the memory space almost equivalent to that of existing methods of MIE. In other words, the proposed structure with lower number of operations offers higher speed and more efficient in compared with the existing methods of MIE.

#### <span id="page-37-0"></span>**4 Discussion and Conclusion**

The proposed structure can be employed to design chaos-based cryptosystems of MIE. The proposed structure provides the structural and cryptographic advantages over the existing methods. For the structural advantages, the proposed model accepts any model of chaotic map, and it requires only a single chaotic map. Besides, the permutation and diffusion are integrated in processing *K* pixels at the same time, and the perturbation to the chaotic map and data manipulation are performed by the XOR operation. As a consequence, a crypstosystem employing the proposed structure requires less computational resource in compared with the existing methods of MIE.

For the cryptographic advantages, the proposed structure also provides the elastic key space and the content-dependent encryption. Firstly, because the values of state variables and control parameters are represented in the format of fixed-point number, so the key space can be extended by increasing the number of bits in the fractional portions. The key space can also be enlarged by increasing the number of pixels  $kC_0^-$  and  $kP_0^+$  in the secret key. In that case, more than one neighboring pixel is used in the diffusion process in [\(9\)](#page-6-2) instead of single neighbor pixel in the exemplar simulation. Secondly, the perturbation amounts to the chaotic map is constructed with the involvement of the image content by means of *E* as

<span id="page-38-0"></span>



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 $M_{\gamma} =$ 

<span id="page-40-0"></span> $M/s, N_y =$ 

 $N/s, s < min(M, N), mod(M, s) = 0, mod(N, s) = 0$ 

in  $(1)-(3)$  $(1)-(3)$  $(1)-(3)$ , in other words, the encryption is dependent on the image content. The benefit of the content-dependent encryption is that it can resist from the types of chosen-plaintext and known-plaintext attacks. In addition, the diffusion effect is obtained not only via [\(9\)](#page-6-2) directly but also via the dynamics of chaotic map indirectly by the perturbation.

In conclusion, the example and simulation results shows the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed structure for fast and efficient cryptosystems. In the future work, specific cryptosystems using above-mentioned chaotic maps will be implemented in hardware for applications.

## **Declarations**

**Conflicts of interest** The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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