

# **VISUAL CRYPTOGRAPHY SCHEMES FOR SECRET SHARING USING MEANINGFUL COVERING SHARES**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Visual cryptography has been around for many years. The shares produced by a Visual Cryptography Scheme (VCS) from a secret image are not meaningful. One who has no formal training in cryptography also can use such system without any special devices. However, its down side is that the shares are not meaningful and all look alike. Having meaningful shares can help various covering shares to be identified easily though the hidden secret image can't be known. The proposed Visual Cryptography Scheme for Secret Sharing uses meaningful covering shares besides improving visual quality of the shares. The empirical results revealed that the proposed VCS is more secure and flexible than the existing EVCSs found in literature.

**KEYWORDS:** VCS, Random Shares, Covering Shares, Secret Sharing.