



## A 2D CHAOS-BASED VISUAL ENCRYPTION SCHEME FOR CLINICAL EEG SIGNALS

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# A 2D CHAOS-BASED VISUAL ENCRYPTION SCHEME FOR CLINICAL EEG SIGNALS

Chin-Feng Lin\* and Boa-Shun Wang\*

**Key words:** two dimensional (2D) chaos-based encryption scheme, clinical electroencephalography, transmission bit error rate, parallel processing, mobile telemedicine.

## ABSTRACT

In this paper, we have developed a two-dimensional (2D) chaos-based encryption scheme that can be applied to signals with transmission bit errors in clinical electroencephalography (EEG) and mobile telemedicine. As opposed to one-dimensional (1D) chaos-based encryption, the proposed 2D schemes uses the concept of parallel processing to increase the encryption speed. An essential feature of the proposed scheme is that signals mapping of a 2D chaotic scrambler and a permutation scheme are used to obtain clinical EEG information that requires high-level encryption. Simulation results show that when the correct deciphering parameters are inputted, EEG signals with a transmission bit error rate (BER) of  $10^{-7}$  are completely recovered. However, these signals can not be recovered if there is an error in the input parameters, for example, an initial point error of 0.00000001%.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Chaos theory is an interesting branch of mathematics that has been widely applied in many engineering fields [2-31]. One application of this theory is chaos-based encryption, which is used for the encryption of data, audio, video, images, and biomedical signals. Unlike block encryption algorithms such as the data encryption standard (DES) algorithm, Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman (RSA) algorithm, and advanced encryption standard (AES) algorithm, a chaos sequence is continuous and suitable for data encryption in continuous media such as audio, video, electrocardiogram (ECG) and electroencephalography (EEG) signals, and in large block files such as image signals. Chaos-based encryption is sensitive to the starting point and type of the chaotic logistic map used; different starting points and chaotic logistic maps generate different chaotic sequences for encryption. Zhou *et al.* [31]

identified several disadvantages of previous chaos-based encryption system: (i) the chaotic map may be analyzed easily if a few plaintext-ciphertext pairs are known; (ii) the self-synchronization subsystem is insensitive to the parameters used; and (iii) the signal to be encrypted is strongly correlated to the original signal. In [26], an efficient hierarchical chaotic image encryption algorithm has been developed on the basis of chaotic permutation and used for rearranging image blocks and for scrambling the pixels in each block. In [2, 3, 17, 20, 21, 24-26], chaos-based encryption schemes that can be applied to e-mail, voice, and video signals have been proposed. In these studies, chaos-based encryption algorithms have been adopted to generate encrypted bit streams. In these encryption algorithms, an exclusive-OR (XOR) gate is used to generate encryption e-mail, voice, and video bit streams. Chaos-based decryption carried out in the receiver by using the same parameters used for chaos-based encryption and decrypted e-mail, voice, and video bit streams are generated by carrying out an XOR operation. Chaos-based encryption is suitable for mobile telemedicine applications [11-14, 16], as it guarantees confidentiality of patient-related information by facilitating data protection. In [12], we carry out chaos-based pixel address (position) permutation and transformation of pixel values for the encryption X-ray images. We use all-pass filtering to scramble the phase spectra of the most-important low-resolution sub-image in the following manner. In the pre-filtering step, we add 2D chaotic signals to randomize reference phase spectra; then, in the post-filtering step, we subtract the same reference phase spectra to recover the original phase spectra of the image. In [14], we proposed a one-dimensional (1D) chaos-based bit streams ciphers for use in mobile telemedicine systems. In [15], we scramble the signal values of the inputted EEG signals by a 1D chaotic signal to randomize the EEG signal values, and applied chaotic address scanning order encryption to achieve visual encryption. In this paper, we make improvements to 1D chaos-based encryption and propose a 2D chaos-based visual encryption scheme based on parallel processing for application to clinical EEG signals. The proposed 2D chaos-based cipher can simultaneously encrypt  $N$  clinical channels in a parallel architecture. An essential feature of the 2D encryption scheme is that signal mapping of 2D chaotic scrambler and a permutation scheme are used to obtain clinical EEG information that requires high-level encryption. The encryption speed in the case of 2D

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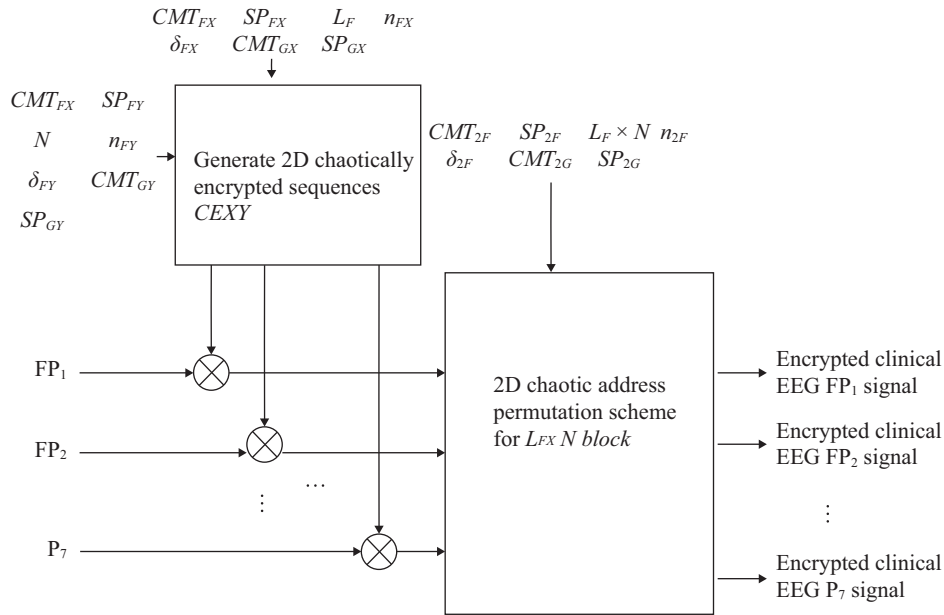


Fig. 1. Proposed 2D chaos-based encryption scheme for clinical EEG signals.

encryption is  $N$  times higher than that in the case of 1D chaos-based encryption; on the other hand, the hardware complexity in 2D encryption is  $N$  times lower than that in 1D encryption. This is because part of the hardware can be hardware shared in the proposed 2D chaos-based cipher. Simulation results show that when the correct deciphering parameters are inputted, signals with a transmission bit error rate (BER) of  $10^{-7}$  are completely recovered. However, signal recovery is not achieved if there is an error in the input parameters, for example, an input point error of 0.00000001%.

## II. A 2D CHAOS-BASED ENCRYPTION SCHEME FOR CLINICAL EEG SIGNALS

Fig. 1 shows the architecture of the proposed 2D chaos-based encryption scheme to clinical EEG signals. In this scheme, a 2D chaos-based encryption scrambler and a 2D chaotic address permutation method are used. First,  $N$  multichannel clinical EEG signals are inputted to the 2D chaos-based cipher and processed by a 2D chaos-based encryption scrambler to generate 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals. In addition, 2D chaotically encrypted sequences are generated, and are multiplied by the  $N$  multichannel clinical EEG signals to obtain the 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals. Then, the 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals are processed by the 2D chaotic address permutation method to generate a 2<sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals. Fig. 2 shows the flow chart of the proposed 2D visual chaos-based encryption scheme for clinical EEG signals. In order to increase the robustness of the encryption system, we use chaotic index address assignment process  $F_{CLAX}$  and chaotic candidate point generator process  $G_{CCSX}$  to represent values in the x coordinate

axis, and to generate 1D chaotically encrypted sequences ( $CEX$ ) of length  $L_F$ . Similarly, the process is repeated to generate 1D chaotically encrypted sequences ( $CEY$ ) of length  $N$  in the y coordinate axis. The vector inner product of  $CEX$  and  $CEY$  is obtained to generate 2D chaotically encrypted sequences  $CEXY$ . The 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted signals  $CEEG1$  is generated from the vector inner product of  $CEXY$  and  $N$  channel clinical EEG signals. In order to decrease the correlation between the encrypted and original EEG signals, we use 2D chaotic address permutation encryption to generate 2<sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals  $SGEEGN$ . The parameters used in the scheme are listed in Table 2. The steps involved in the implementation of our 2D chaos-based encryption scrambler can be summarized as shown below.

Step 1: Select a chaotic logistic map type  $CMT_{FX}$  of  $F_{CLAX}$ , where the starting point is  $SP_{FX}$ ,  $L_F$  is the length of an encrypted clinical EEG signal. The parameters  $n_{FX}$  and,  $\delta_{FX}$  denote the security level.

Step 2: Generate a chaotic sequence of length  $n_{FX}$ .

$$x_{n+1} = CMT_{FX}(x_n); x_0 = SP_{FX} \quad (1)$$

$$n = \{1, 2, \dots, n_{FX}\}$$

Step 3: Discard the previous  $n_{FX}$  chaotic sequence.

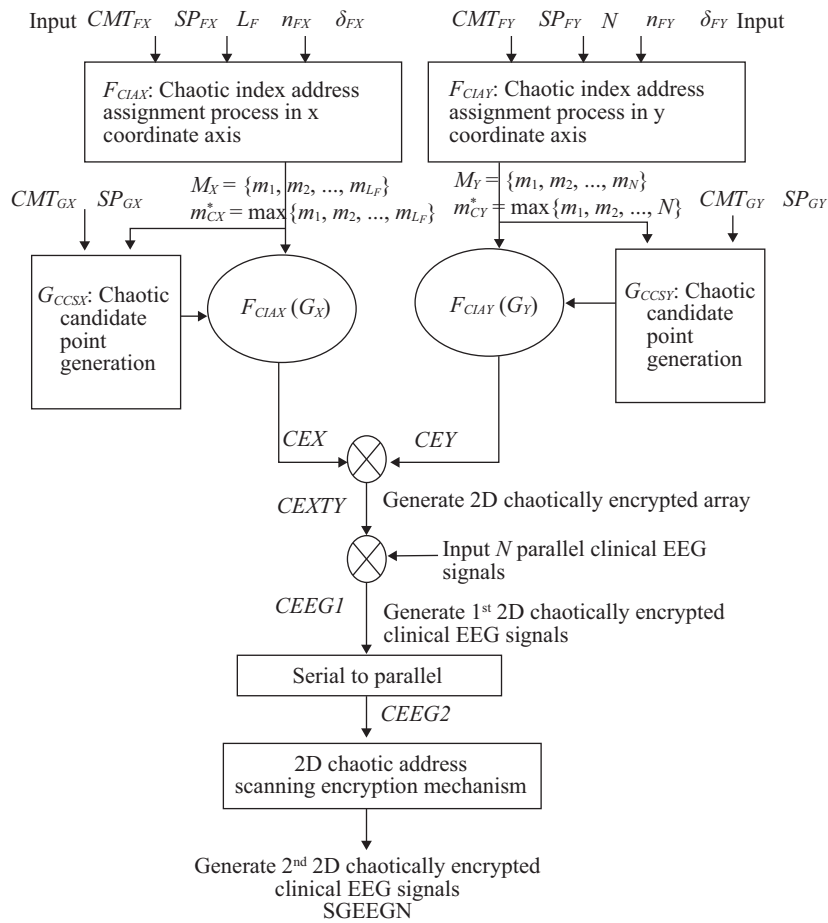
Step 4: Generate a new chaotic sequence

$$x_n = CMT(x_{n_{FX}+1}); n = \{n_{FX} + 1, \dots\};$$

Step 5: If  $x_n > \delta_{FX}$ , discard  $x_n$  and go to step 4. Else, go to step 6.

**Table 1. The performance of transmission error of the proposed 2D chaos-based clinical EEG signals.**

	BER	10 <sup>-7</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>
Correct encryption	PRD (%)	1.1285	1.1285	1.1744	1.2069	6.1534	20.0253	61.2303
	MSE	0.0056	0.0056	0.0061	0.0064	0.167	1.7691	16.5397
	r	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9999	0.9981	0.9804	0.8288
Error encryption	r	0.0272	0.0272	0.0272	0.0272	0.0276	0.0297	0.0341



**Fig. 2. Flow chart of the proposed 2D visual chaos-based encryption scheme for clinical EEG signals.**

Step 6:

$$m_k = \left\lceil \frac{1}{x_n} \right\rceil \quad (2)$$

If  $m_k \notin M_X$ ;  $M_X = \{m_1, \dots, m_{k-1}, m_k\}$ , go to step 7. Else, go to step 4.

Step 7: If  $k = L_F$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} M_X &= \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{L_F}\}; \\ m_{CX}^* &= \max\{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{L_F}\}; \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Else, go to step 4.

Step 8: Deliver  $m_{CX}^*$  to the chaotic candidate point generator

$G_{CCSX}$ .

Step 9: Deliver a chaotic logistic map of the type  $CMT_{GX}$  for  $G_{CCSX}$ , where the starting point is  $SP_{GX}$ .

Step 10: Generate a chaotic sequence of length  $m_C^*$ .

$$\begin{aligned} g_{n+1} &= CMT_{GX}(g_n); \\ g_0 &= SP_{GX}; n = \{1, 2, \dots, m_C^*\}; \\ G_X &= \{g_1, \dots, g_{m_C^*}\} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Step 11: Deliver  $M$  to the chaotic candidate point generator  $G_{CCSX}$ .

Step 12: Generate an encrypted chaotic signal  $CEX$  in the x coordinate axis.

$$M_X = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{L_F}\}; G_X = \{g_1, \dots, g_{m_C^*}\};$$

$$CEX = \{g_{m_1}, g_{m_2}, \dots, g_{m_{L_F}}\} = \{cex_1, cex_2, \dots, cex_{L_F}\} \quad (5)$$

Step 13: Repeat steps 1-12 to generate an encrypted chaotic signal *CEY* in the y coordinate axis. The length of the *CEY* signal is *N*.

Step 14: Generate a 2D chaotically encrypted sequence *CEXY*.

$$CEX = \{cex_1, cex_2, \dots, cex_{L_F}\}$$

$$CEY = \{cey_1, cey_2, \dots, cey_{L_F}\}$$

$$CEXY = \begin{bmatrix} cex_1 \times cey_1 & cex_2 \times cey_1 & \dots & cex_{L_{FX}} \times cey_1 \\ cex_1 \times cey_2 & cex_2 \times cey_2 & \dots & cex_{L_{FX}} \times cey_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ cex_1 \times cey_N & cex_2 \times cey_N & \dots & cex_{L_{FX}} \times cey_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} cexy_{11} & cexy_{12} & \dots & cexy_{1L_F} \\ cexy_{21} & cexy_{22} & \dots & cexy_{2L_F} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ cexy_{N1} & cexy_{N2} & \dots & cexy_{NL_F} \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

Step 15: Input *N* parallel clinical EEG signals. The length of the clinical EEG signal sequences is *L<sub>F</sub>*. The *N* clinical EEG signals are defined as

$$EEG = \begin{bmatrix} eeg_{11} & eeg_{12} & \dots & eeg_{1L_F} \\ eeg_{21} & eeg_{22} & \dots & eeg_{2L_F} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ eeg_{N1} & eeg_{N2} & \dots & eeg_{NL_F} \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

Step 16: Generate 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotic clinical EEG signals *CEEG1*, which are given as

$$CEEG1 = EEG \times CEXY = \begin{bmatrix} ceeg1_{11} & ceeg1_{12} & \dots & ceeg1_{1L_F} \\ ceeg1_{21} & ceeg1_{22} & \dots & ceeg1_{2L_F} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ ceeg1_{N1} & ceeg1_{N2} & \dots & ceeg1_{NL_F} \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

Then, input the *N* parallel 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotic clinical EEG Signals *CEEG1* to a serial-to-parallel converter and generate an *N* × *L<sub>F</sub>* chaotic clinical EEG signals *CEEG2*, which are given as

$$CEEG1 = \{ceeg1_{11} \quad ceeg1_{12} \quad \dots \quad ceeg1_{1L_F} \quad \dots \quad ceeg1_{NL_F}\}$$

$$CEEG2 = \{ceeg2_{11} \quad ceeg2_{12} \quad \dots \quad ceeg2_{N \times L_F}\} \quad (9)$$

Process the chaotic clinical EEG signals *CEEG2* by using 2D chaotic address permutation method, and output the 2<sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals.

The 2D chaotic address permutation encryption scheme is described as follows.

Steps 1 to 5 are the same as those described for the 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaos-based encryption scheme.

Step 6:

$$m_{kl} = \left\lceil \frac{1}{x_n} \right\rceil \quad (10)$$

If  $m_{kl} \leq N \times L_F$ ;  $m_{kl} \notin \{m_1, \dots, m_{k-1}\}$ ;

$M = \{m_1, \dots, m_{k-1}, m_{kl}\}$ ; go to step 7.

Else, go to step 4;

Step 7: If  $k1 = N \times L_F$

$M = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{N \times L_F}\}$ ; else, go to step 4.

Step 8: Deliver *M* to the output encrypted signal processor.

Step 9: Deliver the encrypted clinical EEG signals *CEEG2* to output the encrypted signals.

Step 10: Perform chaotic address permutation of the encrypted clinical EEG signal *SGEEG*.

$$GEEG = \{geeg_1, \dots, geeg_{N \times L_F}\};$$

$$M = \{m_1, m_2, \dots, m_{N \times L_F}\}$$

$$SGEEG = \{geeg_{m_1}, geeg_{m_2}, \dots, geeg_{m_{N \times L_F}}\}$$

$$= \{sgeeg_1, sgeeg_2, \dots, sgeeg_{N \times L_F}\} \quad (11)$$

Step 11: Input *SGEEG* to a serial-to-parallel converter, and generate 2<sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals *SGEEGN*.

$$SGEEGN = \begin{bmatrix} sgeeg_1 & sgeeg_2 & \dots & sgeeg_{L_F} \\ sgeeg_{L_F+1} & sgeeg_{L_F+2} & \dots & sgeeg_{2L_F} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ sgeeg_{(N-1) \times L_F+1} & sgeeg_{(N-1) \times L_F+2} & \dots & sgeeg_{N \times L_F} \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

If the abovementioned process is carried out in the reverse order, the *N* parallel clinical EEG signals are decrypted.

### III. SIMULATION RESULTS

Fig. 3 shows the eight parallel clinical EEG signals FP1, FP2, ..., P8, P7 in the EEG database [5]. The sampling rate of each clinical signal channel is 256 samples/s. The following are the parameters used in the proposed 2D chaos-based encryption scheme. The starting points are  $SP_{GX} = 0.100011$ , and  $SP_{FX} = 0.200011$ ,  $m_C^* = 256$ ,  $N = 8$ ,  $n_{FX} = n_{FY} = 25600$ , and

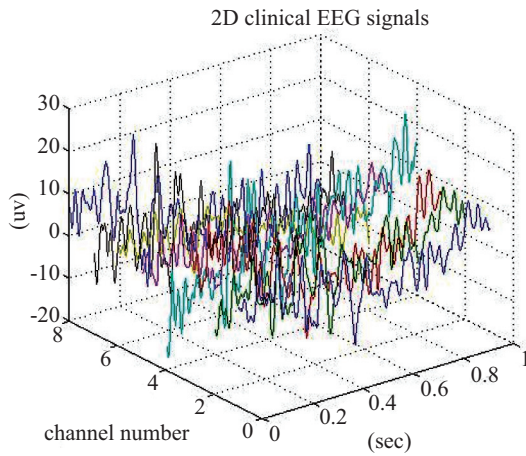


Fig. 3. Eight parallel clinical EEG signals.

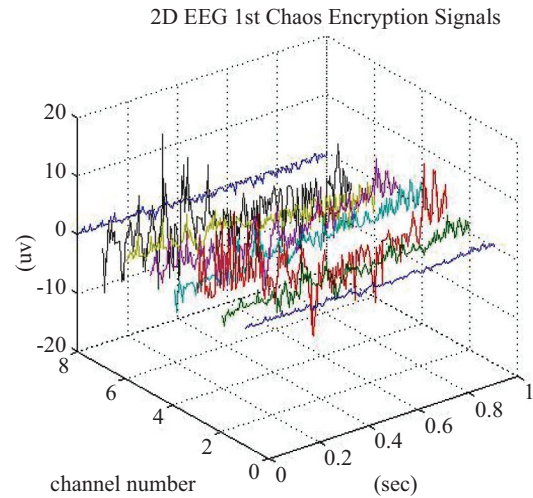


Fig. 5. The 1<sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals generated by using the proposed chaotic scrambler. ( $r = 0.11$ )

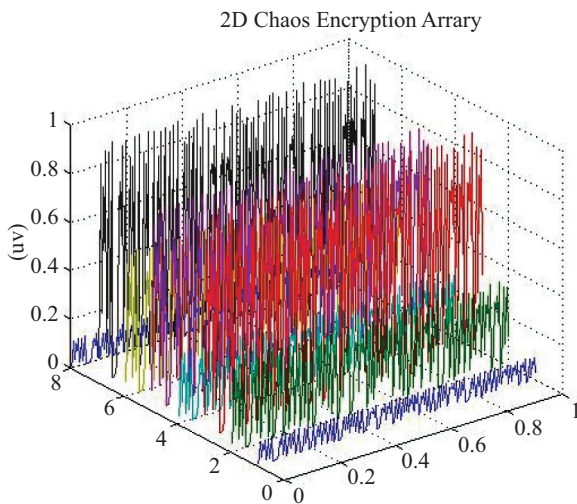


Fig. 4. 2D chaotically encrypted array.

$\delta_{FX} = \delta_{FY} = 0.1$ . The chaotic equation  $x_{n+1} = rx_n(1 - x_n)$  is applied to all types of chaotic logistic maps. Figs. 4 and 5 show the 2D chaotically encrypted array and the 2D chaotically encrypted EEG signals, respectively. We discuss the difference between the original and chaotically encrypted EEG signals by using the Pearson correlation coefficient  $r$ , which is given by

$$r = \frac{\sum XY - \frac{\sum X \sum Y}{Z}}{\sqrt{(\sum X^2 - \frac{(\sum X)^2}{Z})(\sum Y^2 - \frac{(\sum Y)^2}{Z})}} \quad (13)$$

Here,  $X$  and  $Y$  are the amplitudes of the original and encrypted EEG signals, respectively.  $Z$  is the total number of sampled EEG signals. The  $r$  value of signals A and B is 1, which indicates that these signals A and B are identical and completely correlated. The  $r$  value is 0.11 for the original clinical EEG signals and the chaotically encrypted signal

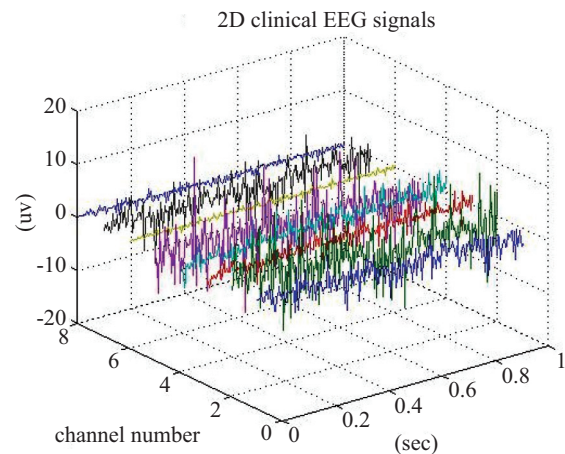


Fig. 6. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals generated by using the proposed chaotic scrambler and 2D chaotic address permutation method. ( $r = 0.016$ )

(transmission BER of  $10^{-7}$ ) generated by using the proposed chaos-based encryption scrambler. Fig. 6 shows the 2D EEG signals that are chaotically encrypted by the proposed encryption scrambler and the 2D chaotic address permutation method. The transmission BER is  $10^{-7}$ . The  $r$  value of the original clinical EEG signals and those encrypted using the proposed encryption scheme is 0.0272. In this case, the encrypted clinical EEG signal are unreadable. The percent root-mean-square difference ( $PRD$ ) is used to evaluate the distortion of the decrypted signals. The  $PRD$  value [1] is obtained using the equation

$$PRD = 100 \times \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L (X_{ori}(i) - X_{dec}(i))^2}{\sum_{i=1}^L X_{ori}^2(i)}} \quad (14)$$



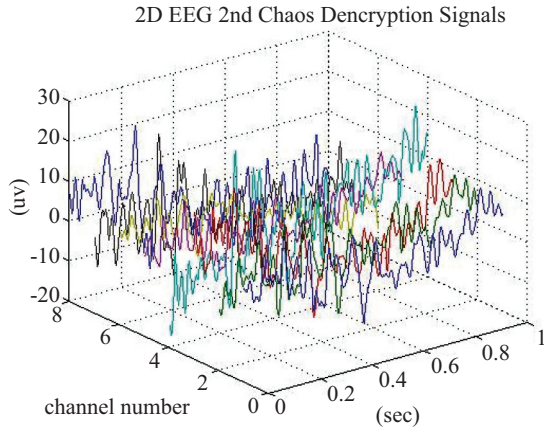


Fig. 7. 2D EEG chaos decrypted signals. (BER =  $10^{-7}$  and PRD = 1.1285%).

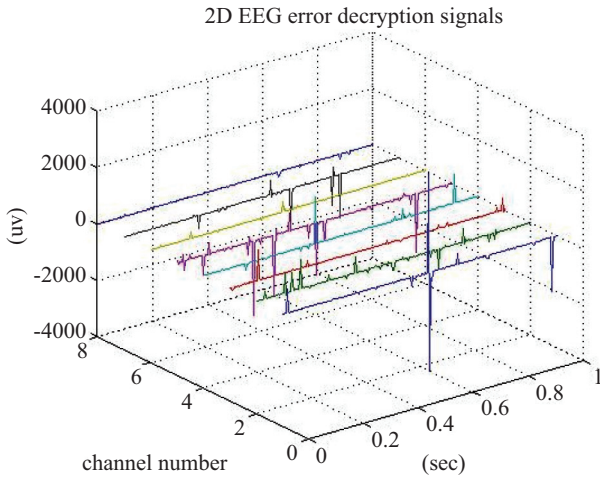


Fig. 8. 2D decrypted EEG signals with error decryption parameter.

where  $X_{ori}$  and  $X_{dec}$  are the original and decrypted clinical EEG signals, respectively. The correct decrypted clinical EEG signals are shown in Fig. 7. We assume that the received EEG signals with a transmission BER of  $10^{-7}$ . The PRD value of the correct decrypted EEG signals and the original EEG signals is 1.1285%. Fig. 8 shows that the error in the decrypted EEG signals and the decrypted parameter at the starting point is  $10^{-6}$ . From the values shown in Table 1, we can discuss the effect of the transmission BERs in the EEG signals that are encrypted by using the proposed scheme. The PRD and  $r$  values of the correct encrypted signals are the same for BER =  $10^{-7}$  and  $10^{-6}$ . The decrypted EEG signals are distorted when the transmission BER exceeds  $10^{-3}$ . From these simulation results, we conclude that the proposed chaos-based 2D encryption is a superior scheme that is well suited for application to clinical EEG signals.

## VI. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have developed a high-speed encryption scheme based on the chaos theory for application to clinical

Table 2. The parameters of the proposed 2D chaos-based visual clinical EEG signals.

$F_{CIAx}$	chaotic index address assignment process in x coordinate axis
$CMT_{FX}$	a chaotic logistic map type of $F_{CIAx}$
$SP_{FX}$	a initial value of chaotic logistic map $CMT_{FX}$
$x_n$	chaotic sequences which was generated by chaotic logistic map type $CMT_{FX}$ and initial value $SP_{FX}$
$n_{FX}$	security level parameter discard previous $n_{FX}$ chaotic sequences ( $x_n$ ) to increase encryption robustness.
$\delta_{FX}$	security level parameter If $x_n$ is larger than $\delta_{FX}$ , discard the chaotic point $x_n$ to increase encryption robustness.
$G_{CCSX}$	chaotic candidate point generation in x coordinate axis
$CMT_{GX}$	a chaotic logistic map type of $G_{CCSX}$
$SP_{GX}$	a initial value of chaotic logistic map $CMT_{GX}$
$G_X$	chaotic sequences which was generated by chaotic logistic map type $CMT_{GX}$ and initial value $SP_{GX}$
$F_{CIAy}$	chaotic index address assignment process in y coordinate axis
$CMT_{FY}$	a chaotic logistic map type of $F_{CIAy}$
$SP_{FY}$	a initial value of chaotic logistic map $CMT_{FY}$
$y_n$	chaotic sequences which was generated by chaotic logistic map type $CMT_{FY}$ and initial value $SP_{FY}$
$n_{FY}$	security level parameter discard previous $n_{FY}$ chaotic sequences ( $y_n$ ) to increase encryption robustness.
$\delta_{FY}$	security level parameter If $y_n$ is larger than $\delta_{FY}$ , discard the chaotic point $y_n$ to increase encryption robustness.
$G_{CCSY}$	chaotic candidate point generation in y coordinate axis
$CMT_{GY}$	a chaotic logistic map type of $G_{CCSY}$
$SP_{GY}$	a initial value of chaotic logistic map $CMT_{GY}$
$G_Y$	chaotic sequences which was generated by chaotic logistic map type $CMT_{GY}$ and initial value $SP_{GY}$
$L_F$	the number of input clinical EEG samples per channel
$N$	the number of input parallel clinical EEG channels
$CEX$	1D chaotically encrypted sequence in the x coordinate axis
$CEY$	1D chaotically encrypted sequence in the y coordinate axis
$CEXY$	2D chaotically encrypted array
$CEEG1$	1 <sup>st</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals
$SGEEGN$	2 <sup>nd</sup> 2D chaotically encrypted clinical EEG signals
$\gamma$	Pearson correlation coefficient

EEG signals. Signals mapping of a 2D chaotic scrambler and a permutation scheme are used to obtain clinical EEG information that requires high-level encryption. Simulation results show that when the correct deciphering parameters are inputted, the signals are completely recovered. This 2D encryption scheme can also be applied to mobile telemedicine systems in which the EEG signals have a transmission BER of  $10^{-7}$ . However, signal recovery is not achieved if there is an appreciable error in the input parameters, for example, when the



initial point error is 0.00000001%. The proposed encryption scheme can be used for the encryption of E-health and M-health biomedical signals.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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