

Biometrics: technologies, challenges, and research directions



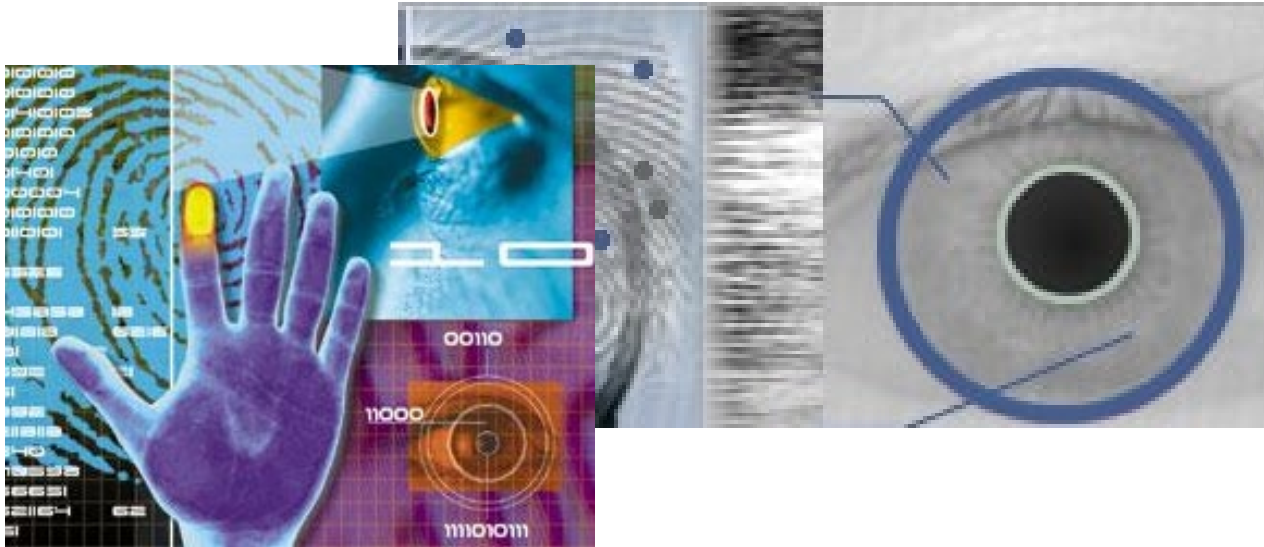
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vincenzo.piuri@unimi.it

<https://piuri.di.unimi.it>

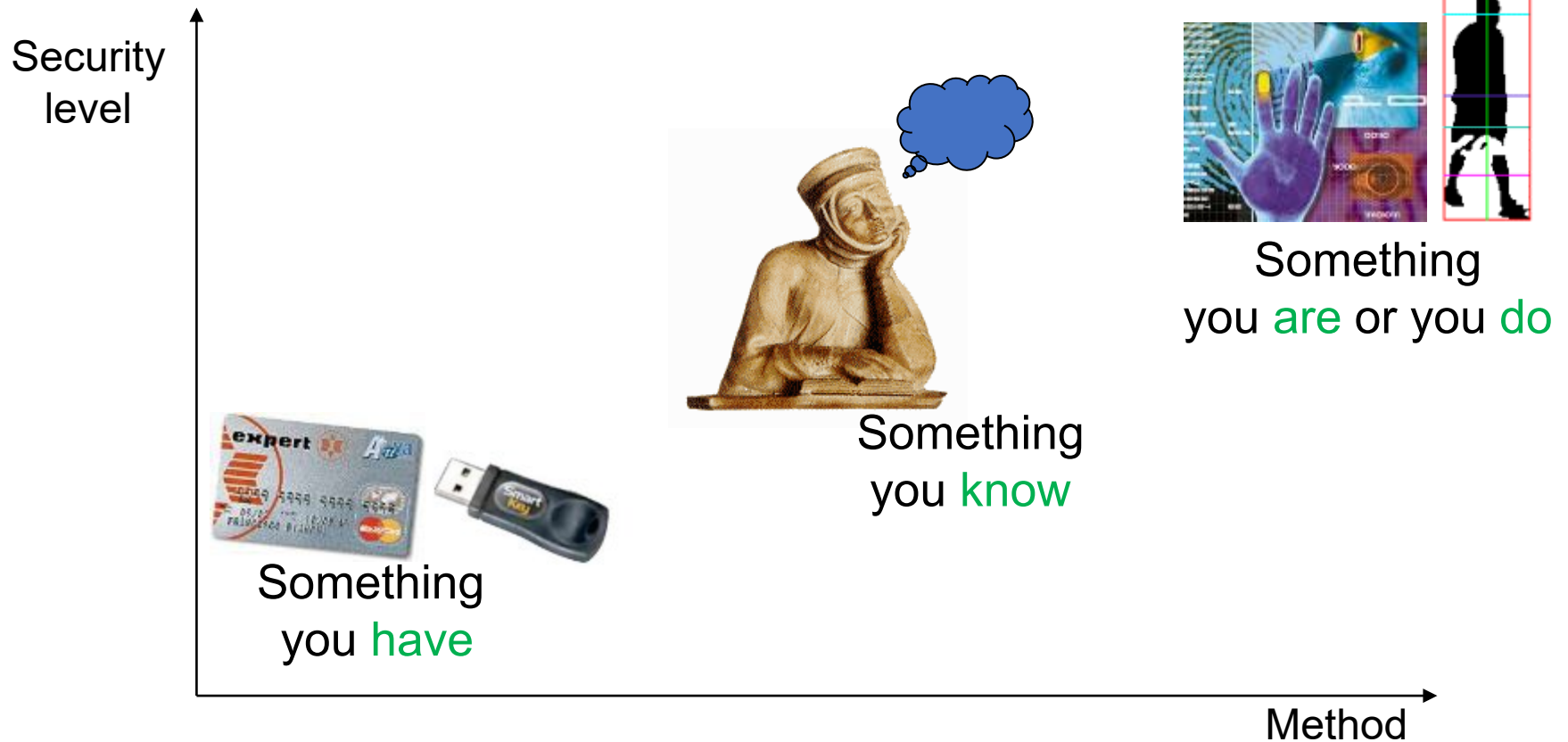
Biometrics



Biometrics is defined by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) as:

“the automated recognition of individuals based on their behavioral and biological characteristics”

Autentication Techniques



Verification vs Identification

Verification (Autentication):
Am I who I say to be?

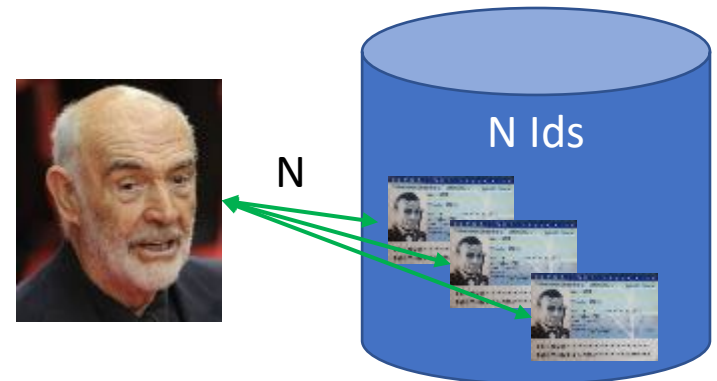
one-to-one (**1:1**) operation



Identification: *Who am I?*

one-to-many (**1:N**) operation

- STANDARD IDENTIFICATION:
finds 1 result (best candidate)
- SCREENING:
finds k possible results (candidates)



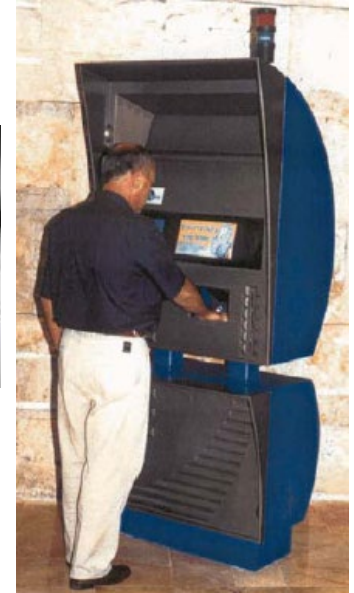
N times longer!
Error increases!
(w.r.t. Verification)

Biometrics Offers Positive and Negative Recognition

POSITIVE Verification or Identification

Determine with high accuracy that the user is who he says she/he is.

- Preventing the use of a **single** identity by *multiple* people



NEGATIVE Verification or Identification

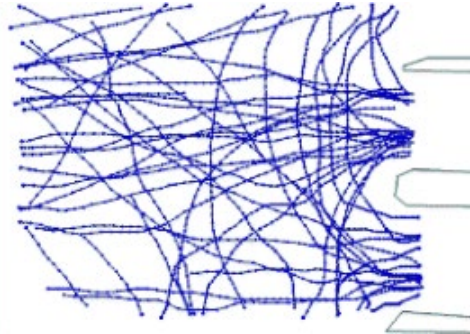
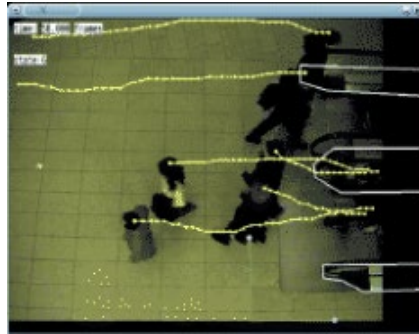
Determine with high accuracy that user is NOT who he says she/he is.

- Preventing the use of *multiple* identities by a **single** person
- The **black/watch list** case:
“You are not in the list”
= Negative Identification



Behavior Recognition for Security

- Motion



- Gesture



- Emotion

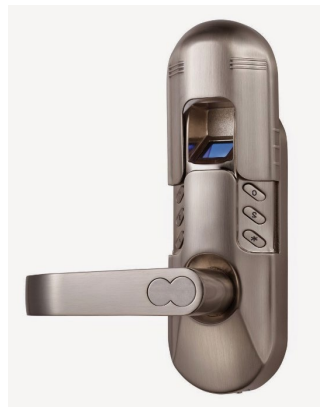
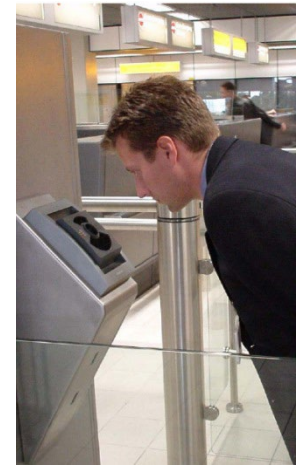


- ...

Biometric Applications

Physical Access Control

- Critical areas
- Restricted areas
- Private areas
- Public buildings
- Sports arenas
- Bank caveau
- Transportations
- ...



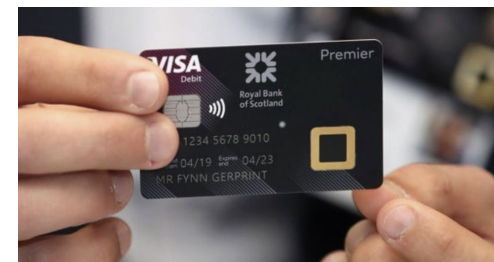
Surveillance

- Buildings
- Public areas
- ...



Logical Access Control to Services

- Home banking, ATM
- Credit cards
- Supermarkets
- E-commerce
- Cellular phones
- Computers
- Data
- ...



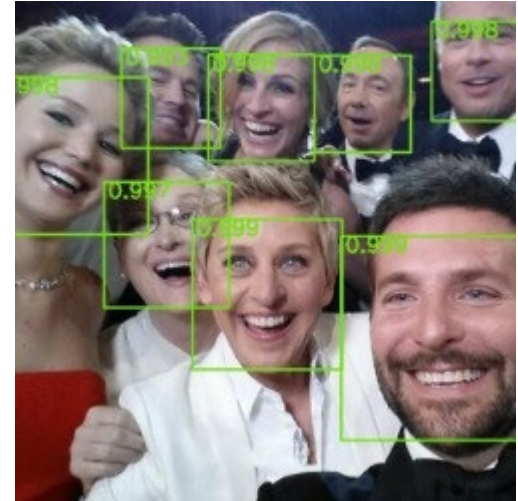
Smart Environments

- Smart home/building
- Smart entertainment systems
- Smart cars/transportation
- Intelligent traffic management
- Smart shops
- Information kiosks and augmented reality



Personalized Interactions

- Social networks
face recognition for automated tagging
- Virtual assistants
voice recognition for personalized speech recognition
- e-commerce systems
emotion recognition for personalized interaction
- ...



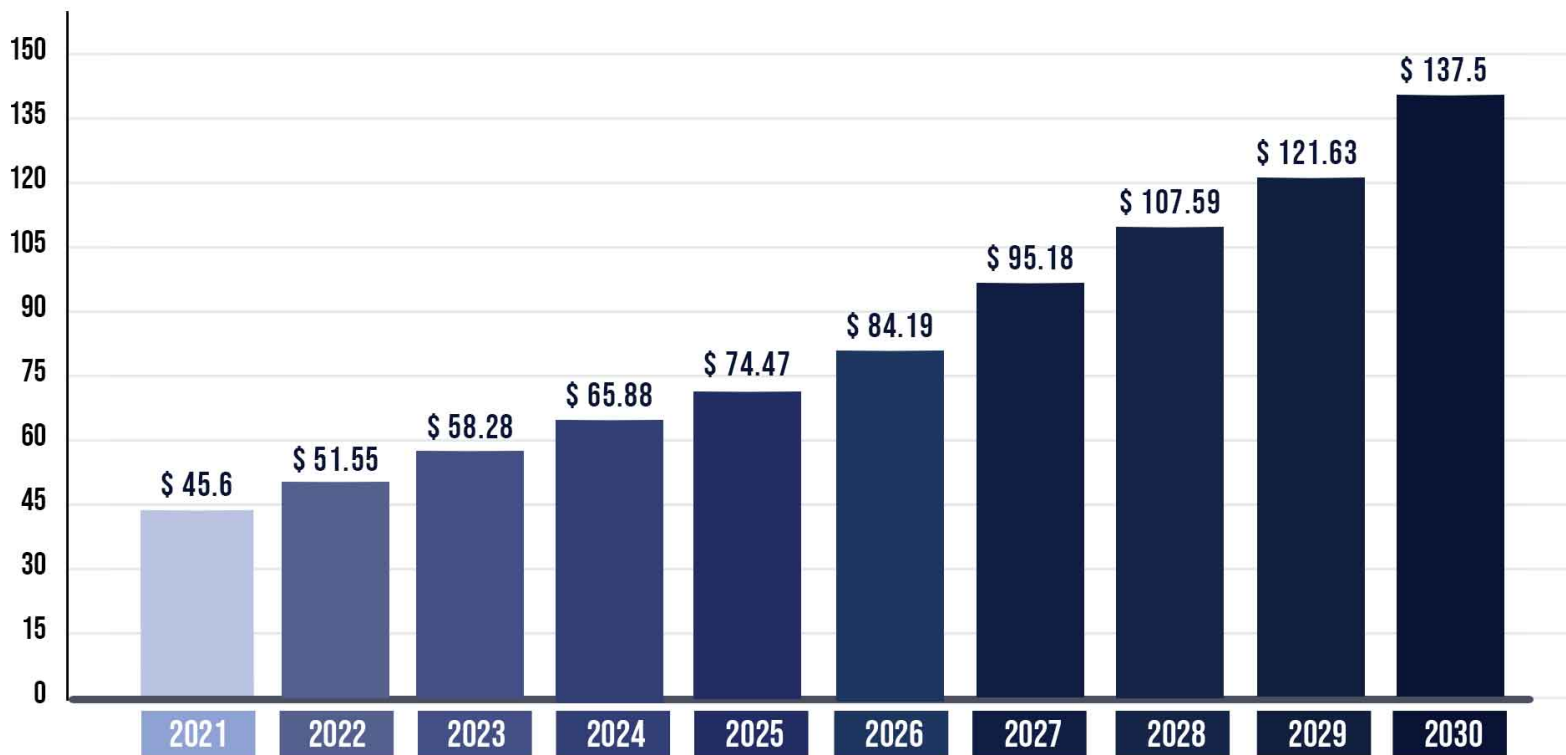
Humanitarian and Forensics Applications

- Recognition of victims
- Refugee protection
- Welfare and food distribution
- Prevention of human trafficking
- Prevention of terrorism
- ...



Market Trend (1)

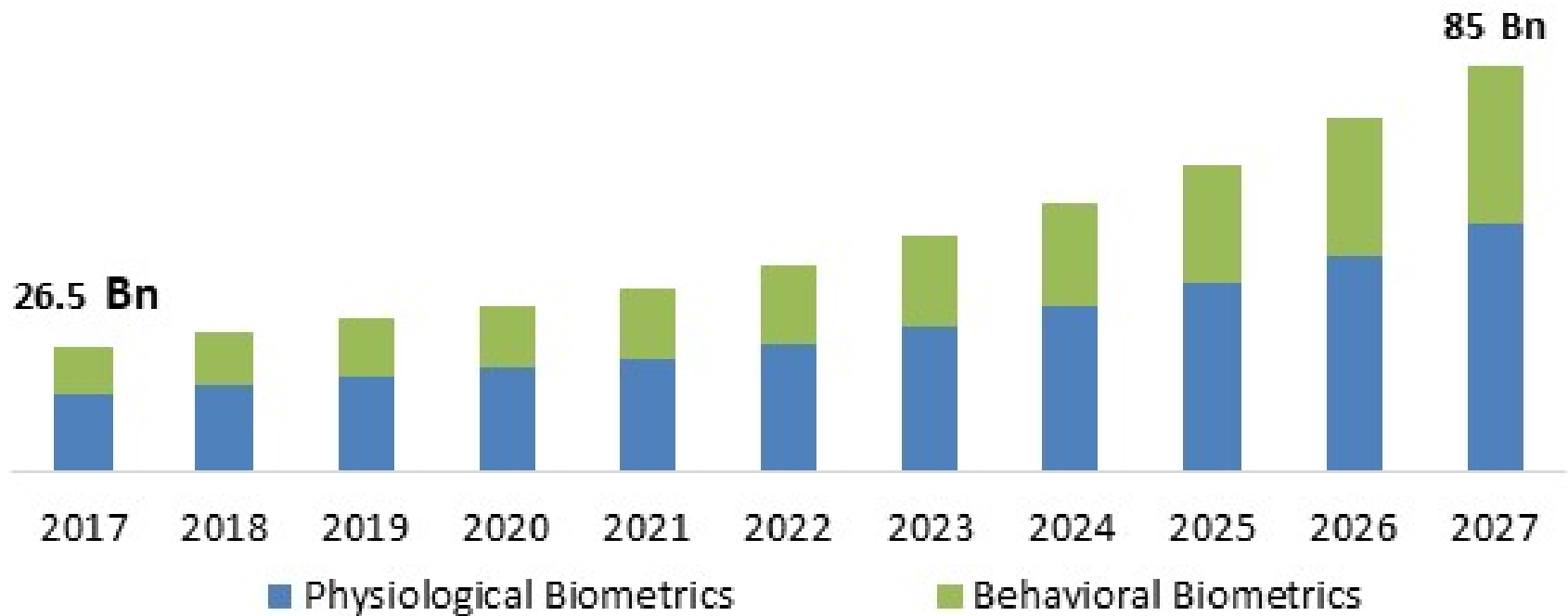
BIOMETRIC TECHNOLOGY MARKET SIZE, 2021 TO 2030 (USD BILLION)



Source: www.precedenceresearch.com

Market Trend (2)

Biometric Technology Market Size, By Type, 2017 - 2027

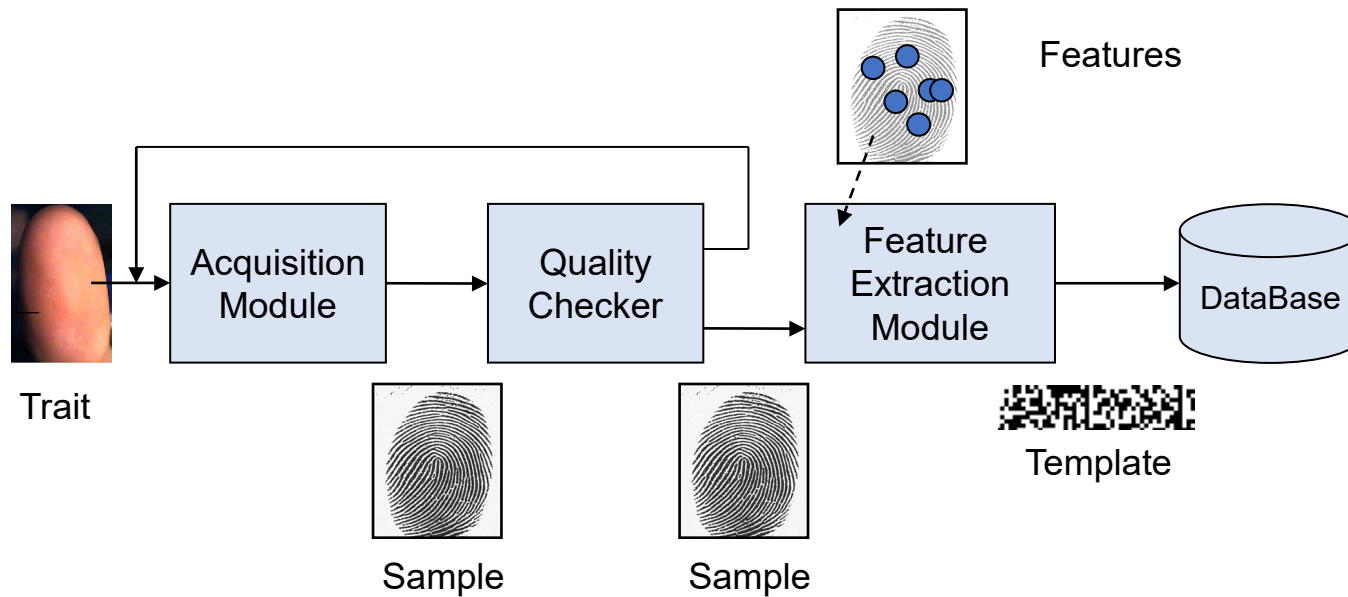


Source: www.kbvresearch.com

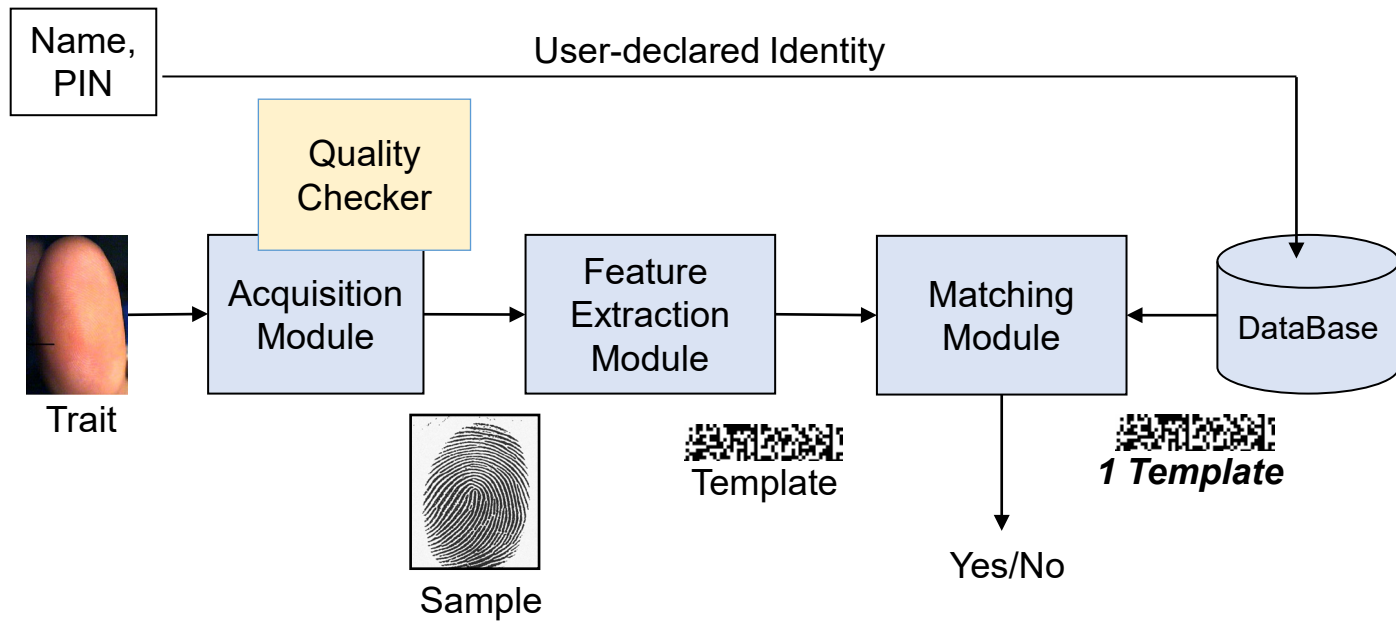
Biometric Systems Operation

Enrollment

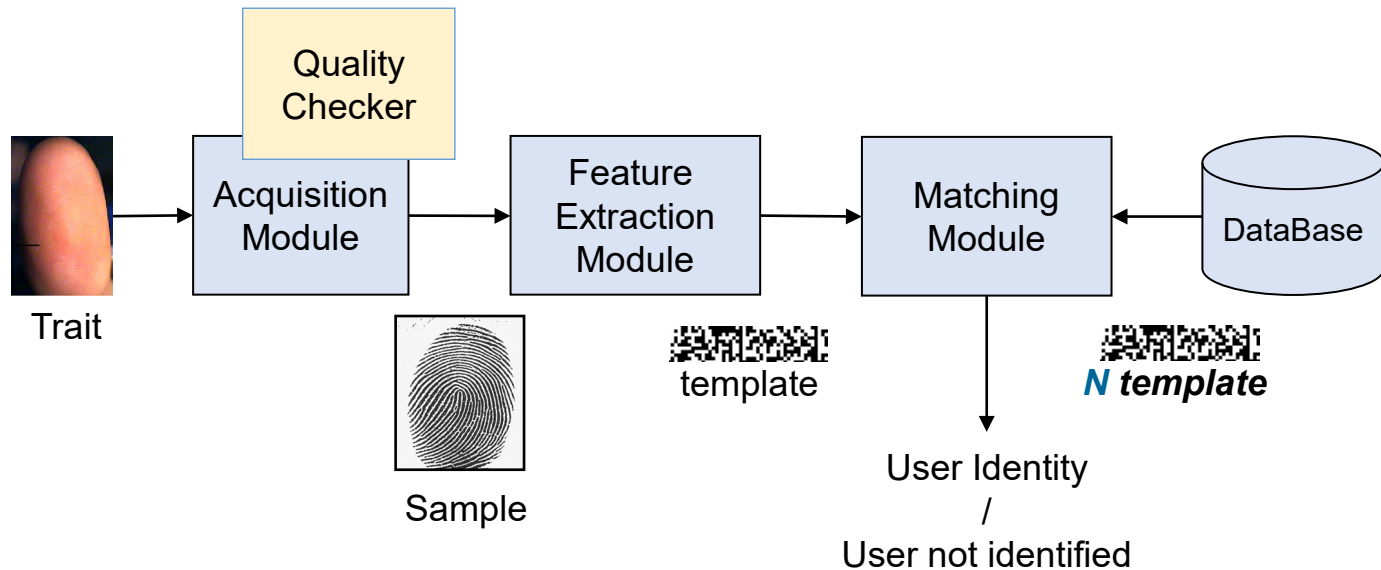
Biometric trait → Template → DataBase



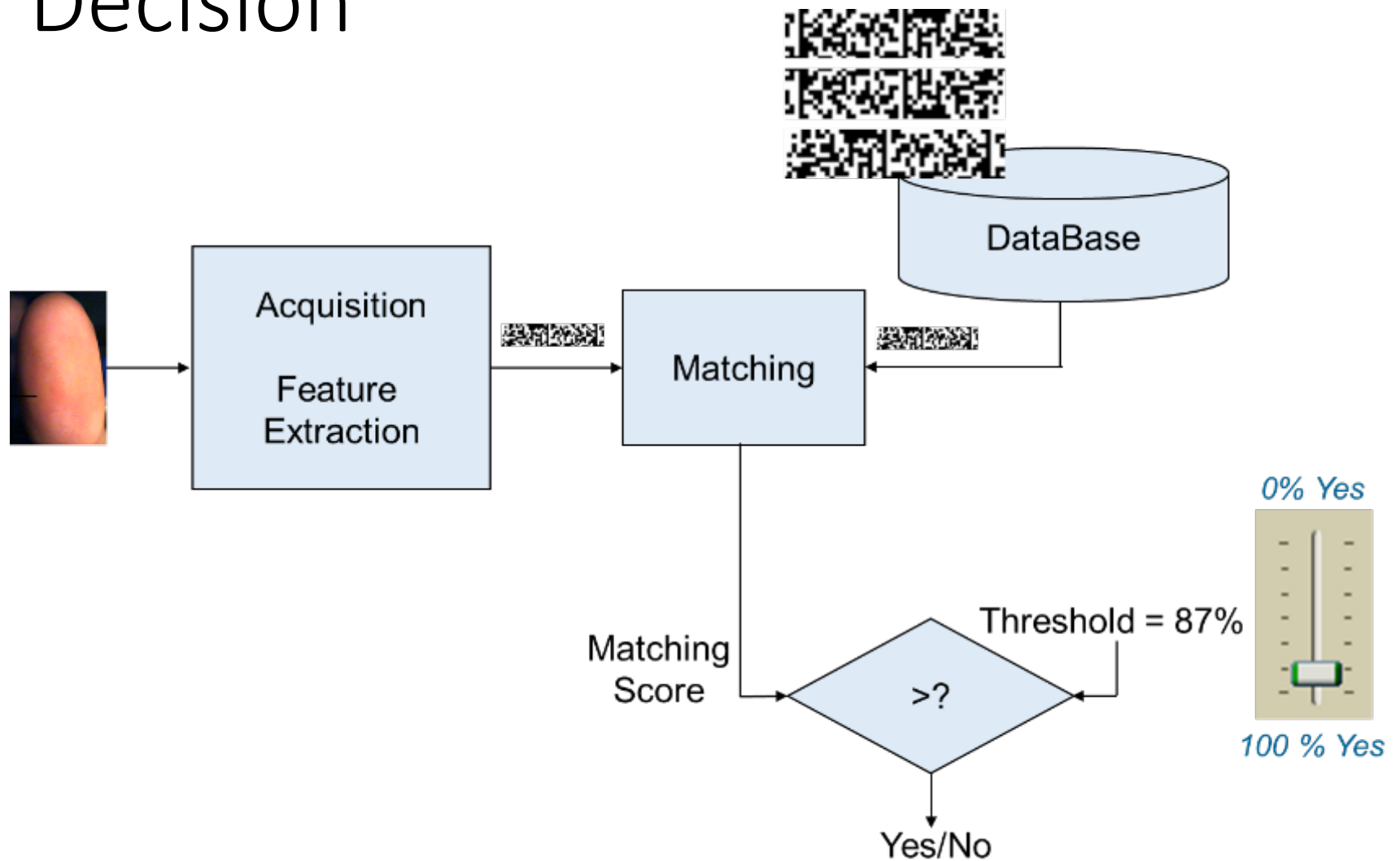
Verification



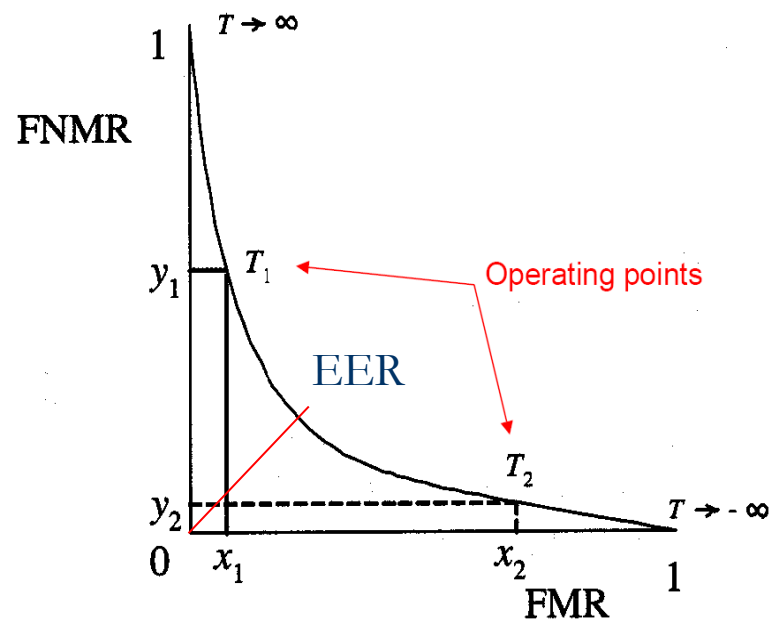
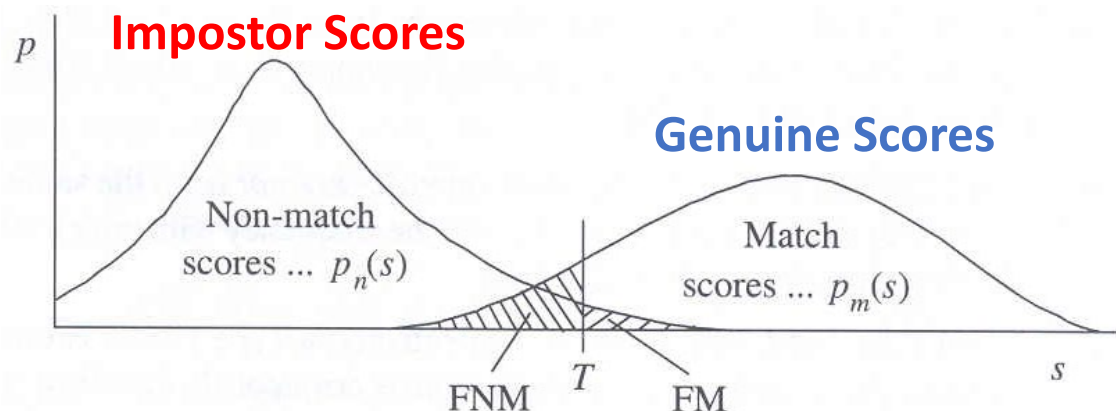
Identification



Decision



Impostor and Genuine Recognition

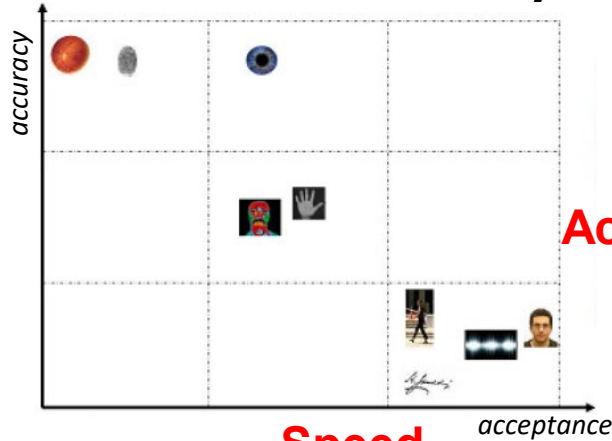


False Match Rate (FMR)

False Non-Match Rate (FNMR)

Equal Error Rate (EER): FNMR=FMR

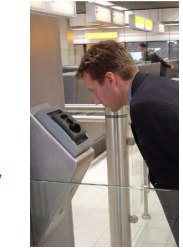
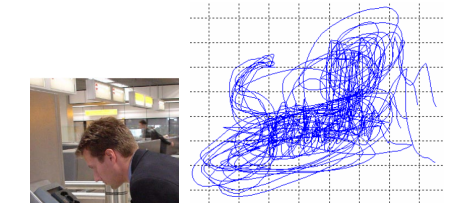
Biometric Systems Evaluation



Social Acceptance

Accuracy

Speed



Scalability

Interoperability



Security

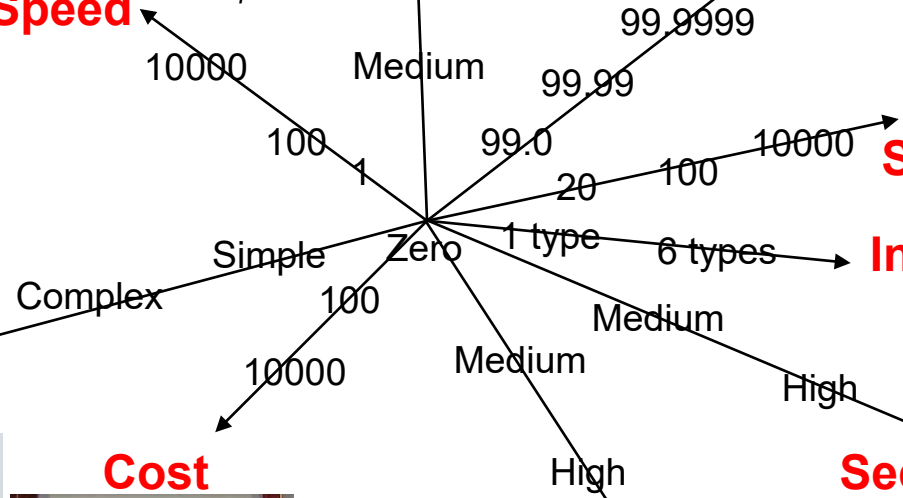
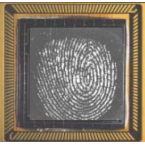
Privacy



Cost



Usability

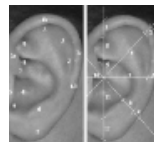
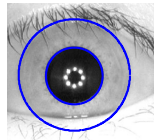


Biometric Traits and Biometric Research Directions

Biometric Traits

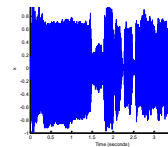
Physiological

- Fingerprint
- Face
- Iris
- Palm
- Retina
- Hand geometry
- Hand veins
- Ear
- DNA
- ECG
- EEG
- ...



Behavioral

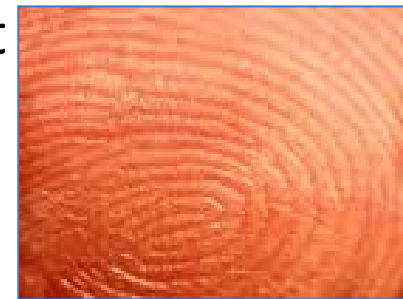
- Voice
- Signature
- Keystroke
- Gait
- Gesture
- Emotion
- ...



Fingerprint



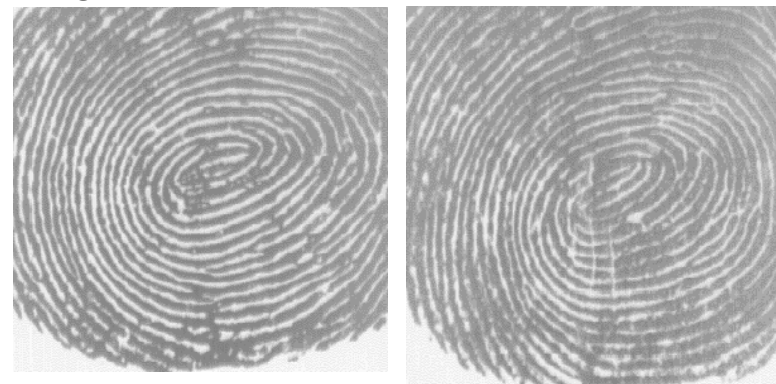
- Oldest and most widespread used trait
- Fingerprint is a pattern of ridges and valleys that develops from a causal configuration already present from embryo
- Can be found on the fingers, palms and underfoot
- They are believed to be unique (based on current knowledge)
- The pattern does not change in time



Two fingerprints of the **same** person



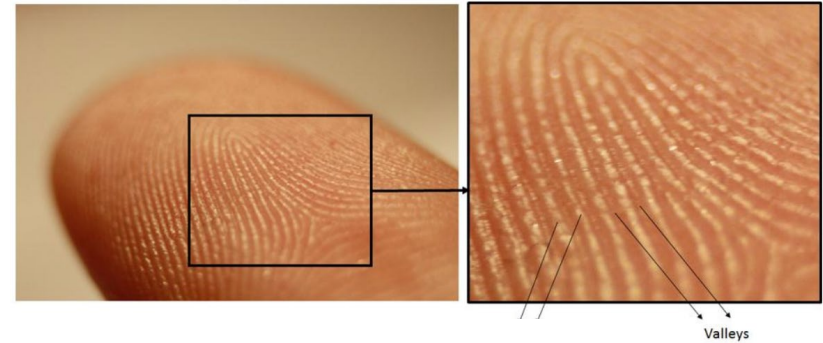
Fingerprints of two **different** persons!



Fingerprint Recognition Methods

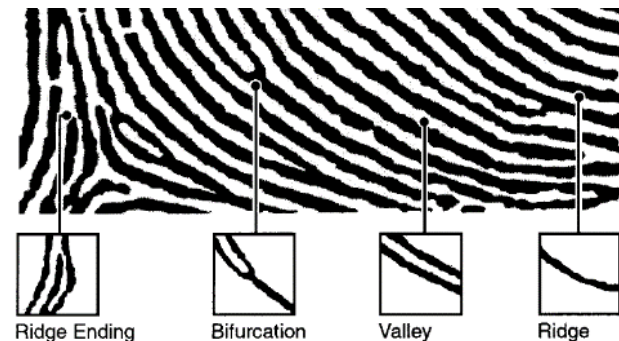
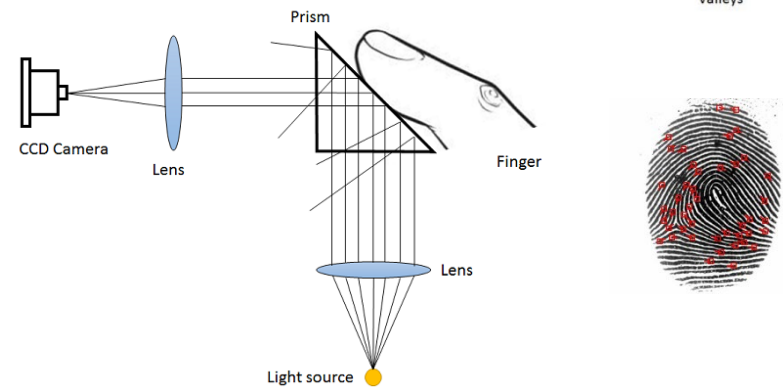
Capture methods

- Optical live-scan
- Solid-state live-scan
- Ultrasound live-scan



Matching algorithms

- Level 1: global ridge flow
- Level 2: minutiae points
- Level 3: fine details such as skin pores and inter-ridge information



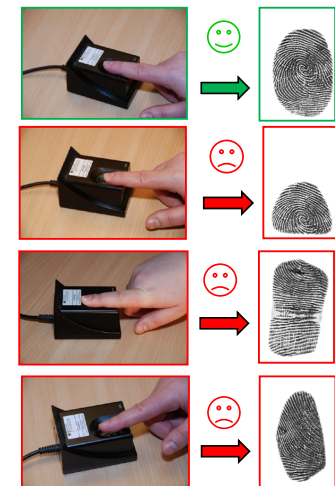
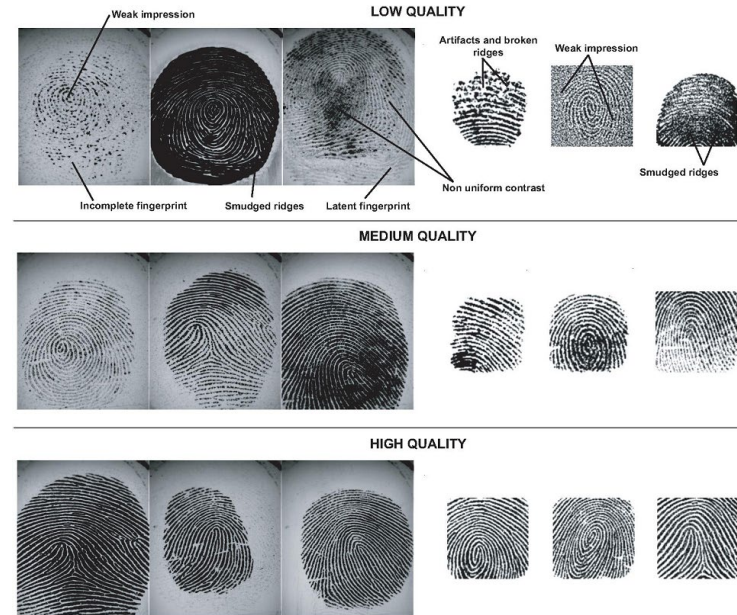
Fingerprint Image Quality

Local image defects

- Partially merging ridges
- Low contrast
- Few visible minutiae
- Artifacts caused by image compression
- Latent fingerprints
- Big “gaps” between the ridges
- “Linked” ridges

Factors that influence quality

- Physical factors: age, skin condition
- Behavioral factors: applied pressure, willingness to cooperate
- Environmental factors: temperature, moisture
- Operational factors: user familiarity, feedback, sensor cleaning, ergonomics



Fingerprint Recognition: Research Directions (1)

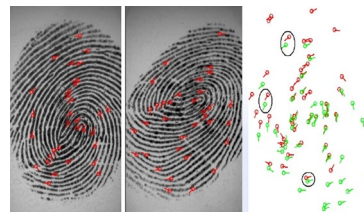
Current performance

FNMR=0.001 at FMR=0.001

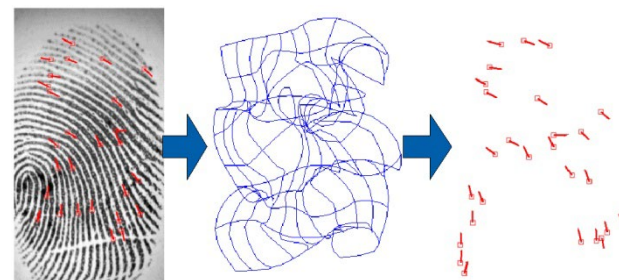
Current and future research areas

- Less-constrained acquisition
- High displacement/rotation
- Non-linear distortion
- Bad skin condition
- Feature extraction errors
- Matching millions of samples
- Exploiting extended features
- Robust orientation modeling
- Automated latent processing
- Learning based methods
- Template protection
- ...

Non-linear distortion



Bad skin condition



Template protection by applying
gaussian transformation

Fingerprint Recognition: Research Directions (2)

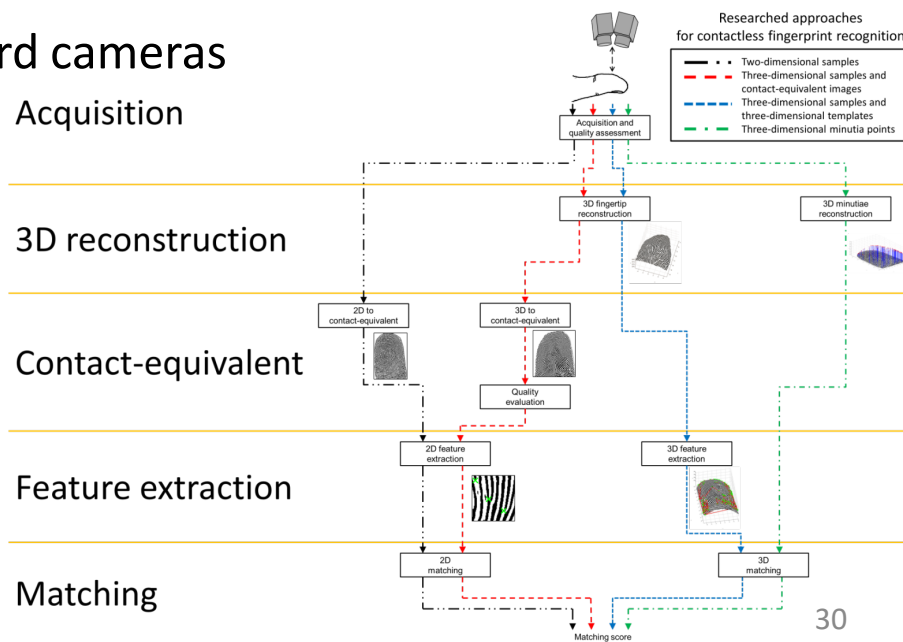
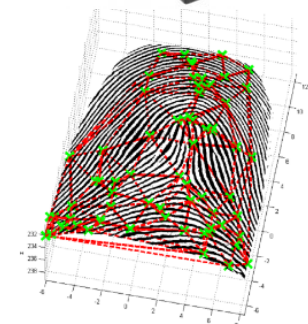
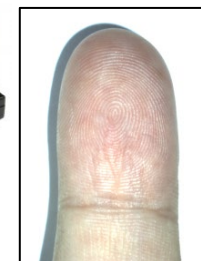
Contactless Fingerprint

Advantages

- Less-constrained
- No distortions due to pressure on sensor
- More robust to dust and dirt
- Higher user acceptance
- Use in mobile devices with standard cameras

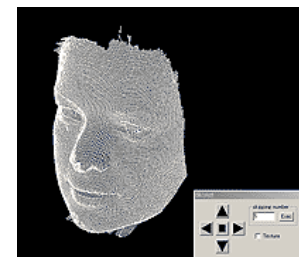
Challenges

- Partially compatible with AFIS
- Complex background
- Sensible to lighting
- Sensible to position
- 2D systems can show distortions
- 3D systems
- Structured light
- Longer computational time



Face

- Among the least intrusive biometric trait
- Normally used by people to recognize each other
- Sensors: cameras, video / webcam, smartphones, PC, 3D scanner
- Challenges
 - Change in time (aging)
 - Lights and backgrounds change
 - Facial expression
 - Different poses
 - Occlusions



Year=0 +1 +2 time



Face Recognition Methods

- Local or feature-based approaches

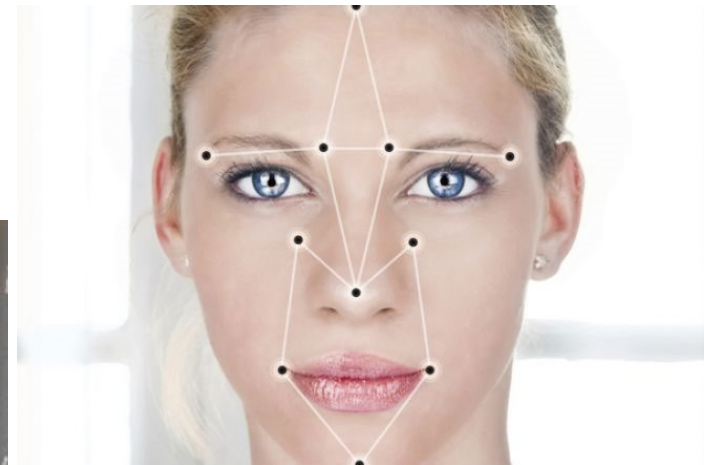
Process the input image to identify and extract distinctive facial features such as the eyes, mouth, nose

- Holistic approaches

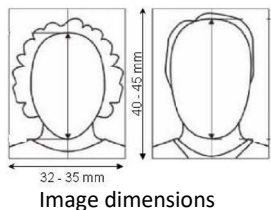
Consider the whole face region for the recognition

- Hybrid approaches

Comparable to the human visual perception



Face Image Quality



Too close



Too far



OK



Damaged
or stained



OK



Faded



Pointed



OK



Shadow
in background



Shadow
in face



OK



Other subject



OK



Objects



Artistic pose



Tilted face



OK



Not centered



OK



Out of focus



OK



Too dark



OK



NO



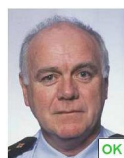
Unnatural color



OK



Red eyes



OK



NO



NO



OK



NO



NO



OK



Eyes covered
by hair



OK



Heavy
frame



Frame
covering eyes



OK



Dark glasses



Glare on
glasses



OK

Face Recognition: Research Directions (1)

Current performance

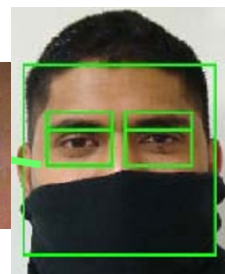
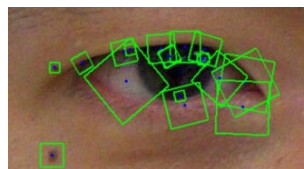
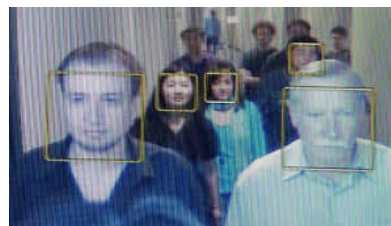
FNMR=0.003 @ FMR=0.001

outperform humans



Current and future research areas

- Less-constrained acquisition
- Face marks
- Periocular
- Age invariance
- Face at a distance
- Face individuality
- IR face recognition
- Sketch recognition
- ...



Face Recognition: Research Directions (2)

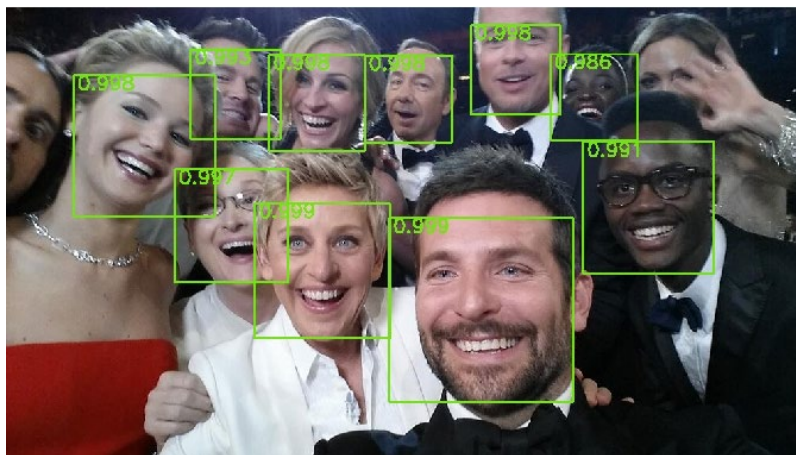
On-the-move Face

Advantages

- Less constrained
- More usability
- Increased user acceptability

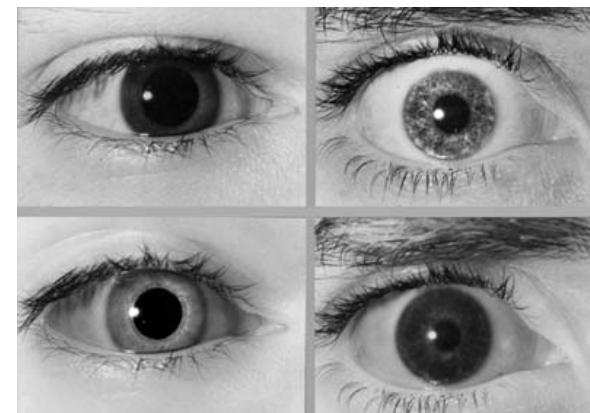
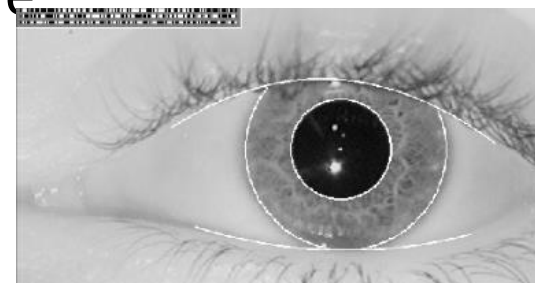
Challenges

- Variability in face position
- Occlusions
- Distorsions



Iris

- Regarded as the most accurate biometric trait
- Numerous and stable in-time characteristics
- Stable (on average) from eight month of life
- Systems are rather complex and expensive, but hard to fraud
- Can be acquired in social media images



Iris Recognition Methods

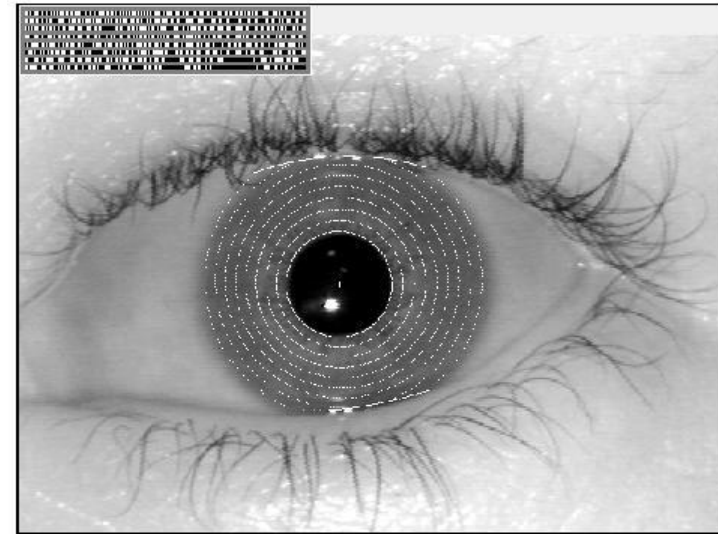
Iris acquisition

- Near infrared illumination
- Natural light

Iris segmentation

Iris coding and matching

- Daugman method
- “Eigen-Iris” approaches
- Texture filters
- Texture analysis
- Analyze the iris in parts



Iris Image Quality

Quality factors

- Environmental
- User behavior

Assessment methods

- Iris Segmentation Scores
- Interlacing
- Blur
- Illumination
- Lighting
- Occlusion
- Pixel Count
- Dilation
- Off-angle

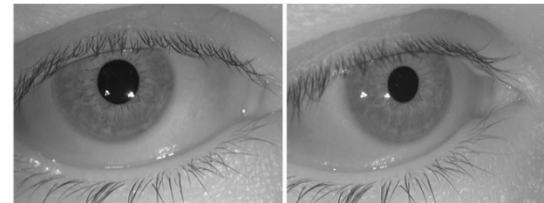
High quality



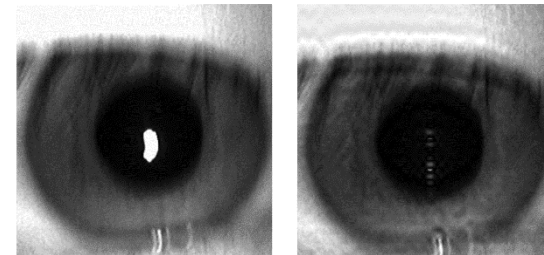
Occluded



Off-angle



Blur



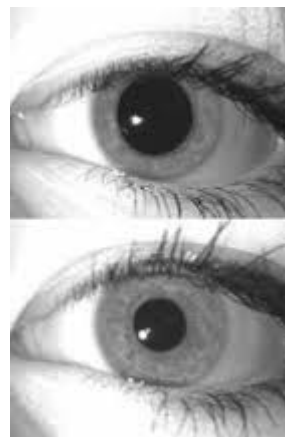
Iris Recognition: Research Directions (1)

Current performance

FNMR=0.07 @ FMR=0.0001

Current and future research areas

- Less constrained acquisition
- Improved segmentation
- Cancelable iris code
- Deal with pupil dilation
- Prediction of subject characteristics
- 3D retina representation



Iris Recognition: Research Directions (2)

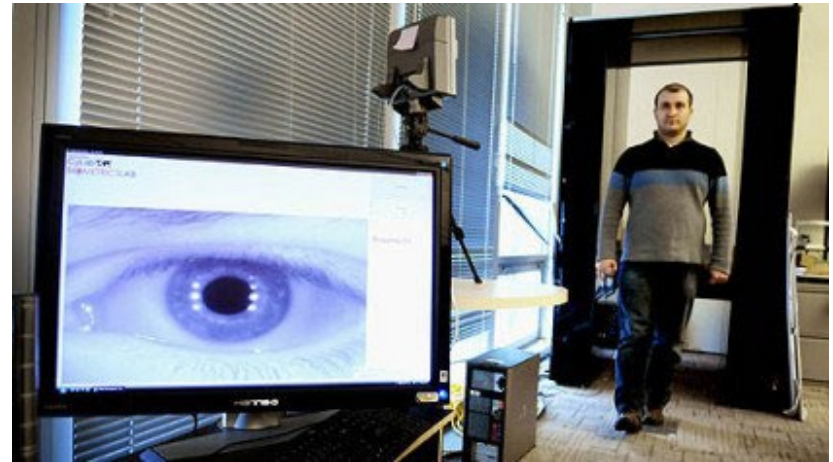
On-the-move Iris

Advantages

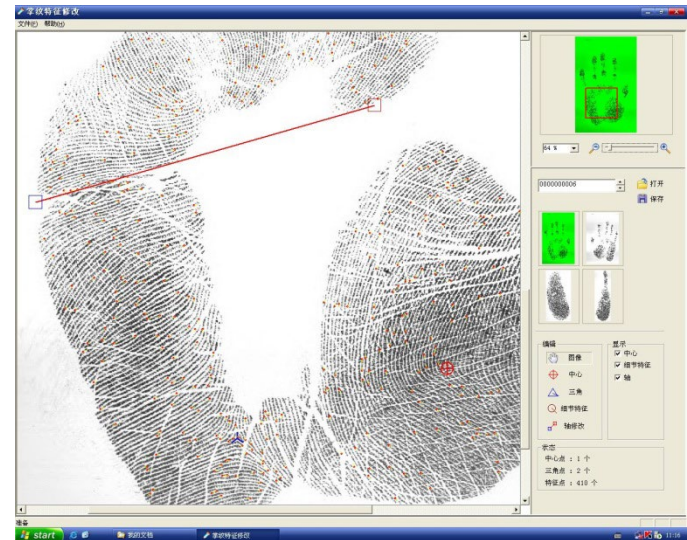
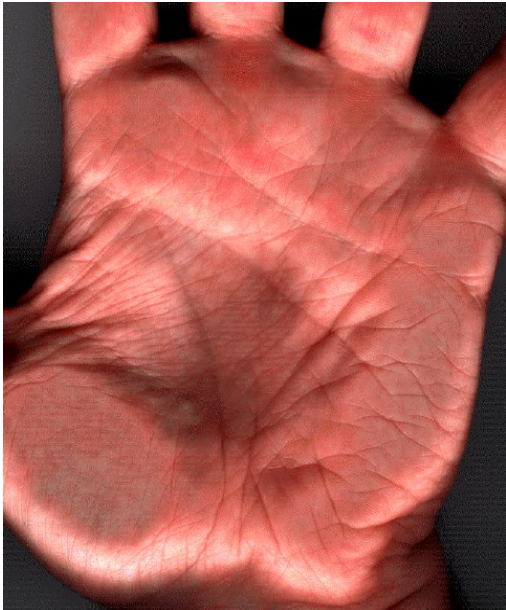
- Less constrained
- More usability
- Increased user acceptability

Challenges

- Variability in iris position
- Variability in eye position
- Occlusions
- Blur and out-of-focus



Palm Print



Contactless Palmprint

Advantages

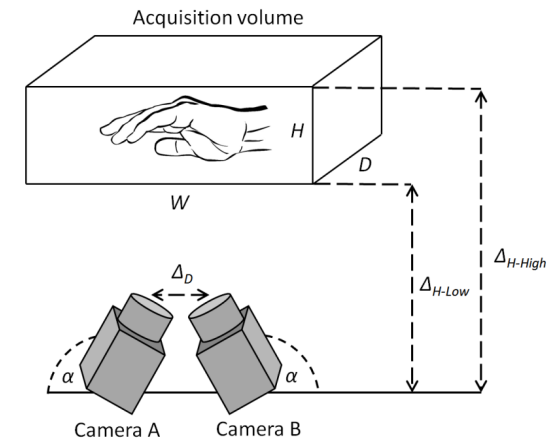
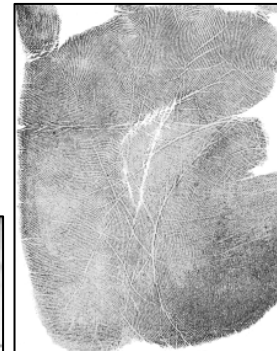
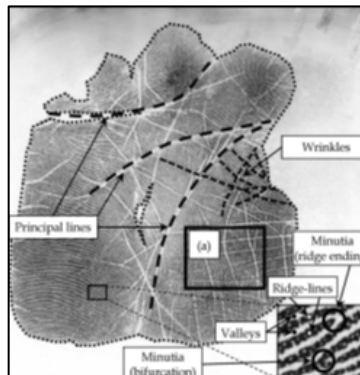
- Less-constrained
- Low resolutions (< 200 dpi)
- Increased user acceptability
- More robust: distortion, dirt

Challenges

- High accuracy features not always usable
- Low contrast
- Complex background
- Sensible to lighting
- Sensible to position

Recognition algorithms

- Ridge based
- Line based
- Subspace based
- Statistical
- Coding based



Contactless Palmprint: Research Directions

Single view systems: 2D systems

- Cameras, Webcams
- Enhancement + traditional recognition methods

Multiple view systems: 3D systems

- Multiple cameras
- Laser scanners
- Mosaicking of three different views
- Illuminator shaped as a ring-mirror

Systems based on structured light

- Able to estimate the height of the ridge pattern
- Long acquisition time

Unwrapping methods

- Parametric models (e.g. cylinder, sphere, set of rings)
- Non-parametric models based on minimization functions

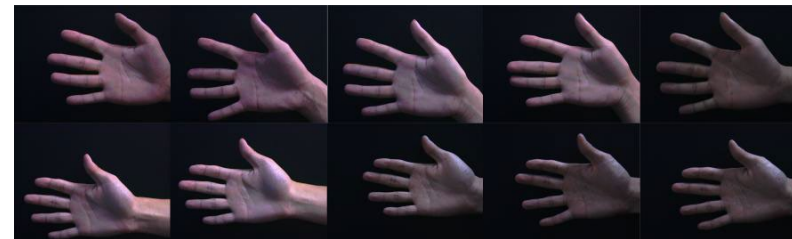
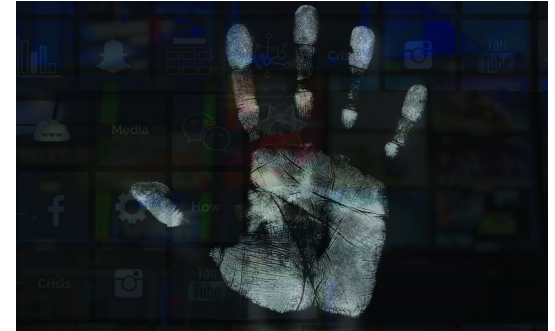
Quality estimation of acquisition

Improving 3D models

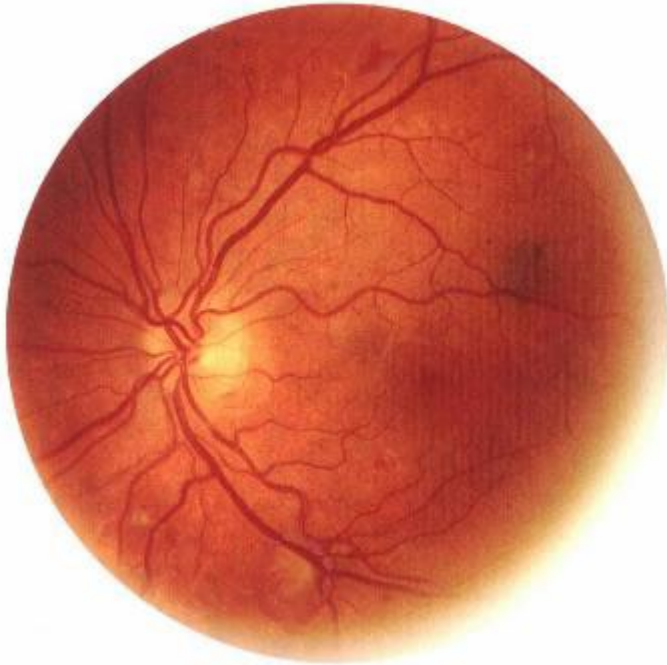
- More robust 3D matching methods
- Robust 3D alignment methods

Simultaneous acquisition with multiple illuminations

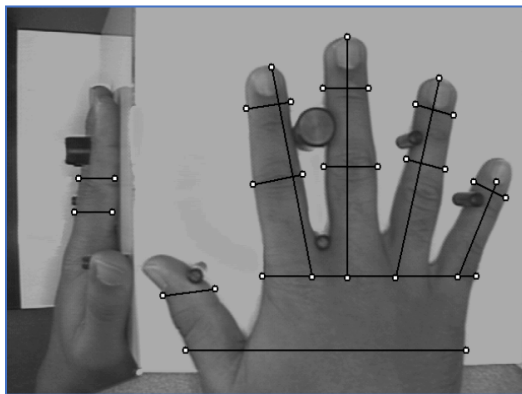
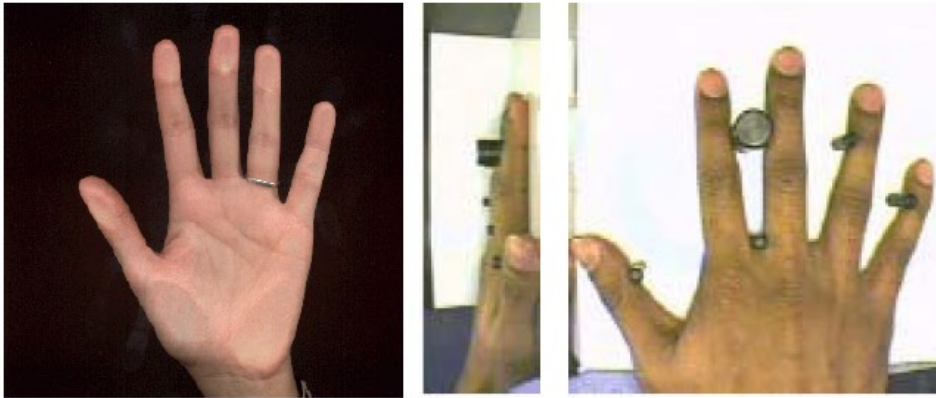
Faster acquisition



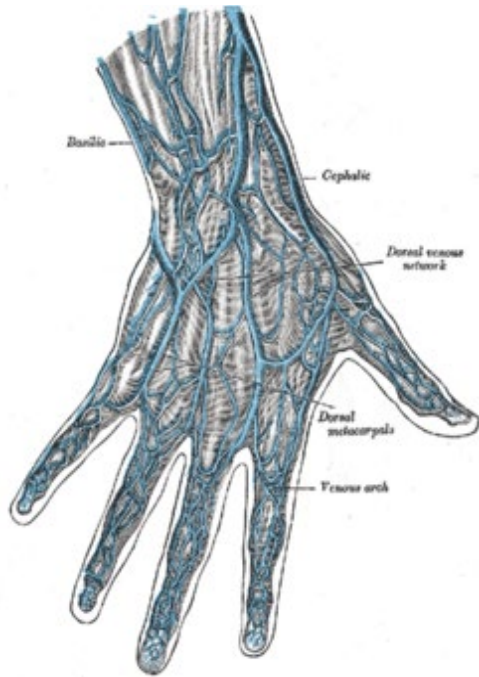
Retina



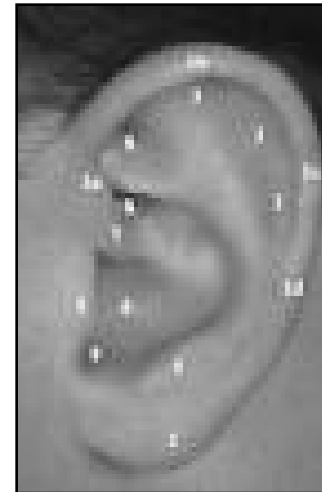
Hand Geometry



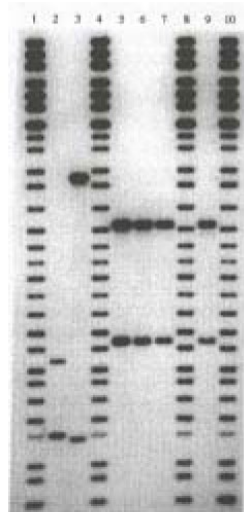
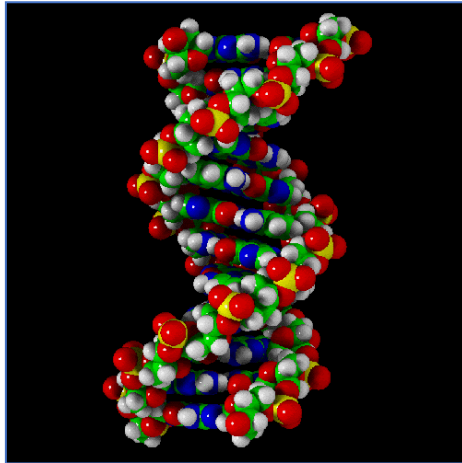
Hand Veins



Ear Shape



DNA



Physiological Signals for Biometric Recognition

- Difficult to counterfeit
- Only from living people
- Continuous authentication

Electrocardiogram



Electroencephalogram

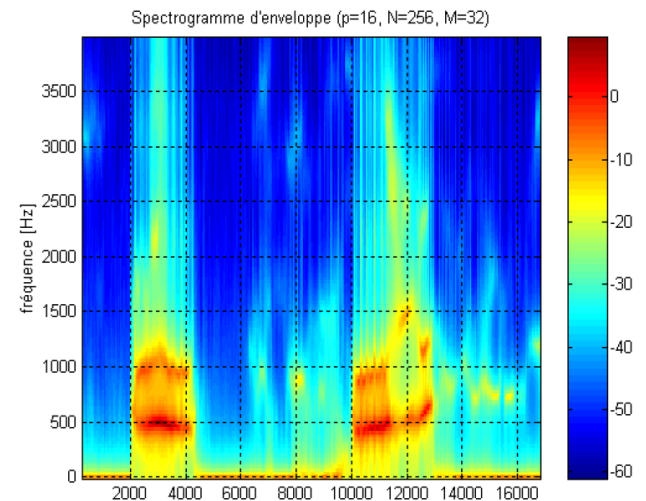
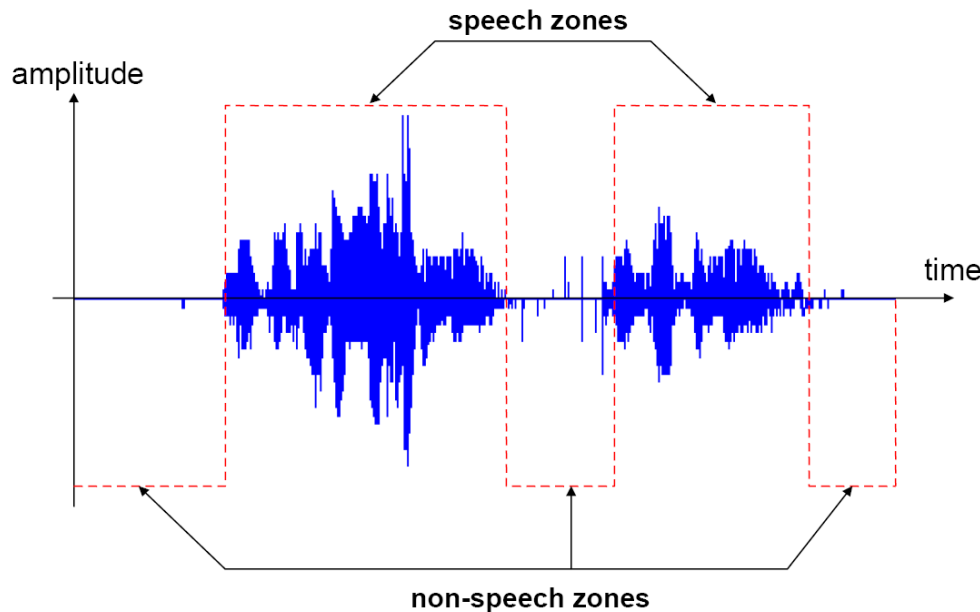
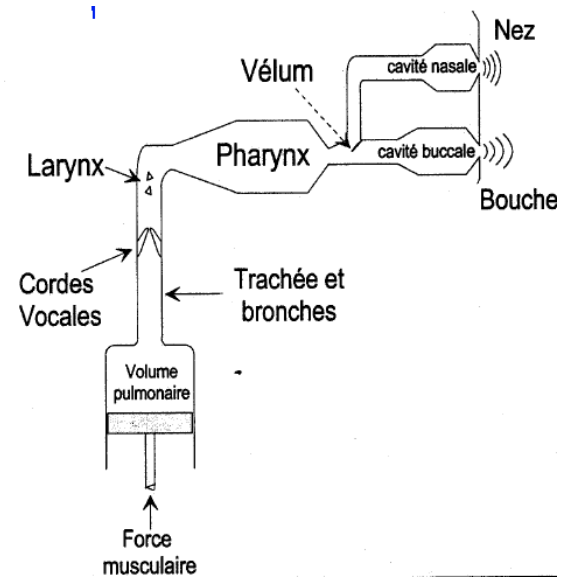


Photoplethysmogram



Voice

- Easily accepted by users
- Low cost
- Low accuracy
- Easy to forge



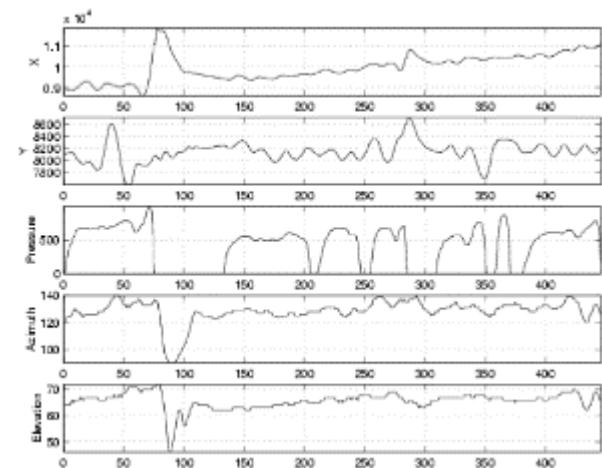
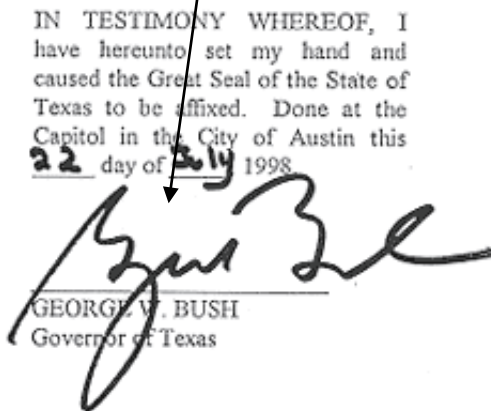
Signature

- Easy
- Cheap but not accurate

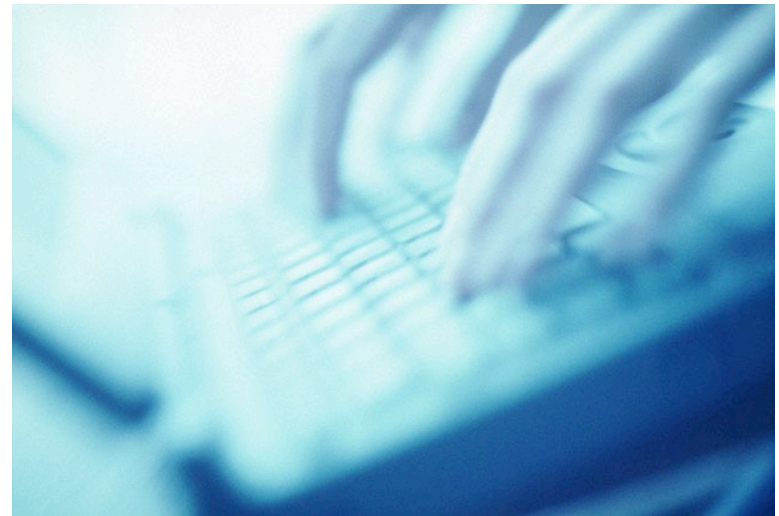


STATIC

DYNAMIC



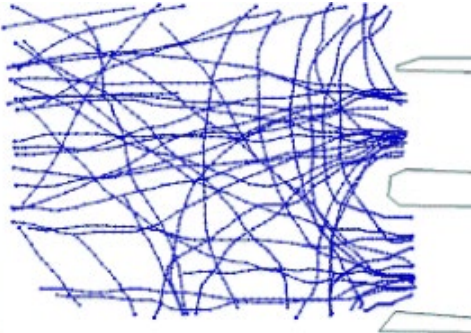
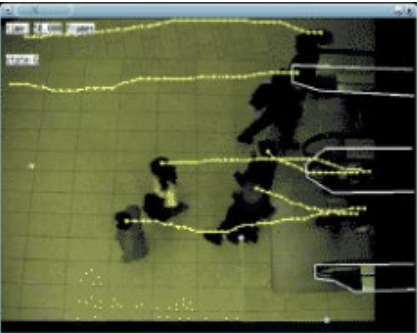
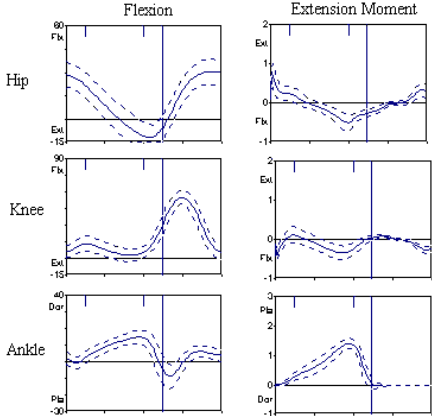
Keystroke



Gait



Gait Analysis : Joint Rotations



Gesture



Emotion



Soft Biometrics

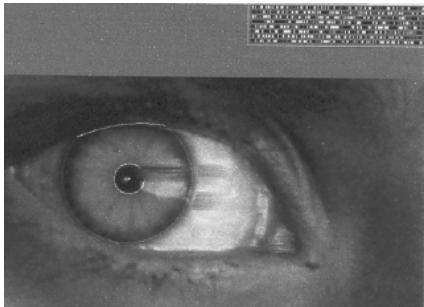
- Gender
- Age
- Skin color
- Ethnicity
- Hair color
- Eye color
- Weight
- Height
- ...



Which Trait for an Application?

Each trait has different properties and usability

**THERE IS NO SINGLE TRAIT
WHICH IS GOOD FOR ALL APPLICATIONS**



Properties of Biometric Traits

Human characteristic

1. Universality
each person should have the characteristic
2. Distinctiveness
any two persons should be sufficiently different in characteristic
3. Permanence (in time)
the characteristic should be sufficiently invariant over a period of time
4. Collectability
the characteristic can be measured quantitatively

Technology

5. Performance
accuracy and computational time should be adequate
6. Acceptability
extent to which people are willing to accept its use in their daily lives
7. Resistance to Circumvention
how easily the system can be fooled using fraud

Properties of Biometric Traits

Biometrics	<i>Universality</i>	<i>Uniqueness</i>	<i>Permanence</i>	<i>Collectability</i>	<i>Performance</i>	<i>Acceptability</i>	<i>Circumvention</i>
Face	High	Low	Medium	High	Low	High	Low
Fingerprint	Medium	High	High	Medium	High	Medium	High
Hand Geometry	Medium	Medium	Medium	High	Medium	Medium	Medium
Keystrokes	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Medium	Medium
Hand Vein	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Iris	High	High	High	Medium	High	Low	High
Retinal Scan	High	High	Medium	Low	High	Low	High
Signature	Low	Low	Low	High	Low	High	Low
Voice Print	Medium	Low	Low	Medium	Low	High	Low
F. Thermograms	High	High	Low	High	Medium	high	High
Odor	High	High	High	Low	Low	Medium	Low
DNA	High	High	High	Low	High	Low	Low
Gait	Medium	Low	Low	High	Low	High	Medium
Ear	Medium	medium	High	medium	Medium	High	Medium

Biometric Systems: Research Directions



Contactless
and
on-the-move

Artificial
Intelligence

Interoperable
distributed
systems

Mobile and
embedded

Ethics and
privacy

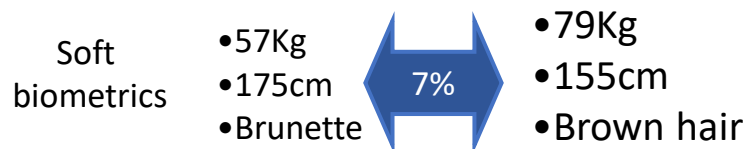
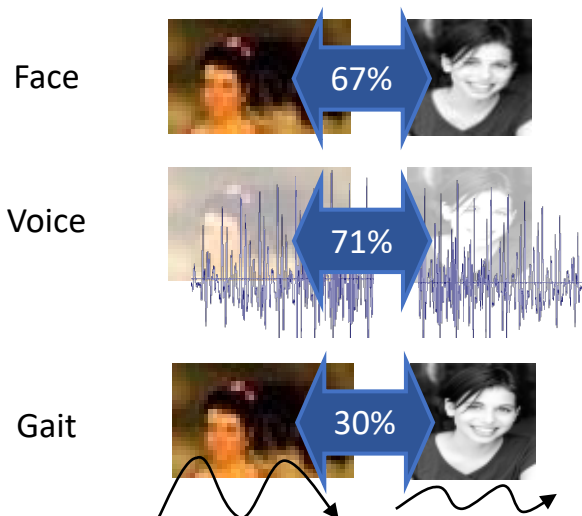
Multimodal
and higher
resolution



Human Beings are Multimodal

While waiting for your friend Laura, someone runs towards you and greeting you

→ The brain performs a multimodal matching



It's not Laura,
it's Maria, her sister

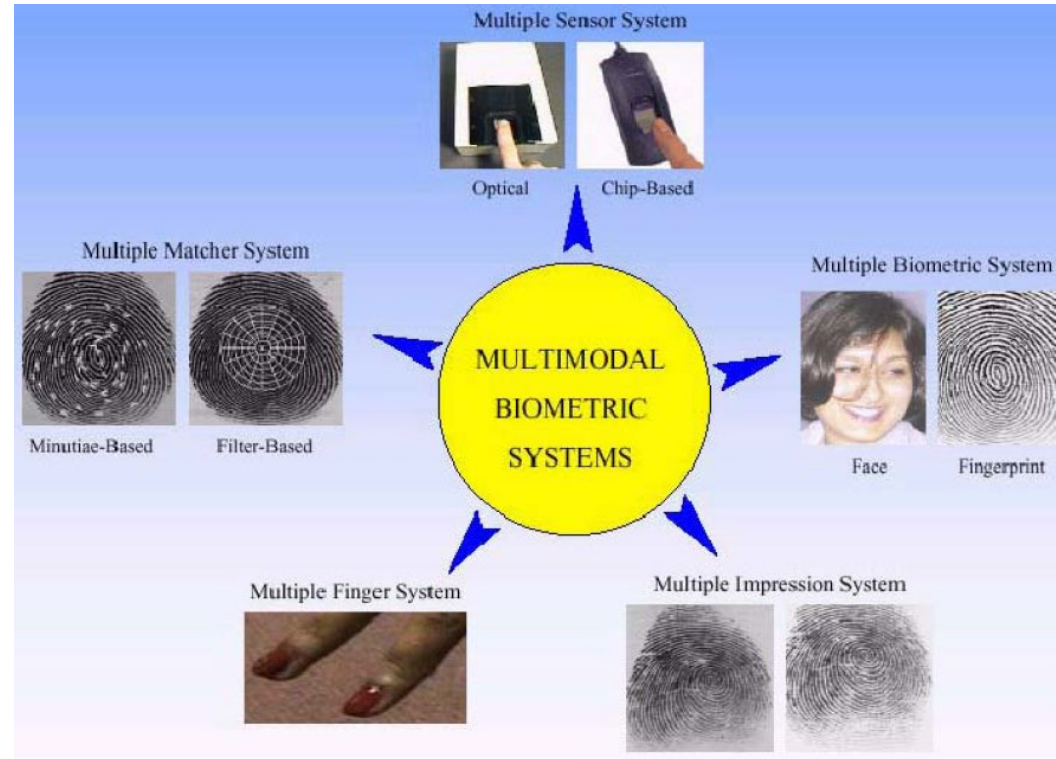
Multibiometrics

Data gathering

- Multiple sensors
- Multiple traits (multimodal)
- Multiple instances
- Multiple samples
- Multiple matchers

Fusion logics

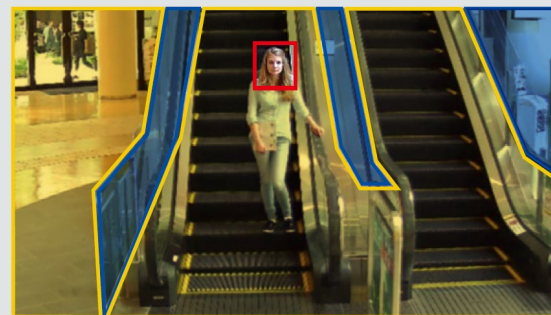
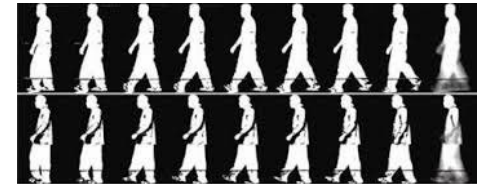
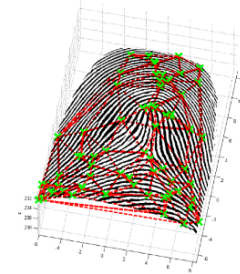
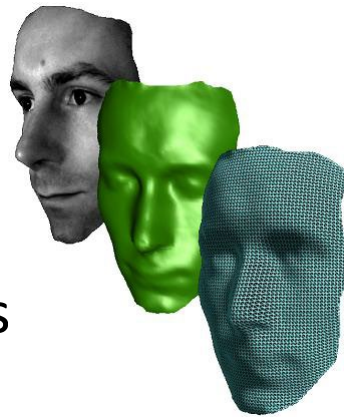
- Sensor level
- Feature set level
- Matching score level
- Decision level



Voice, Face
Voice, Lip Movement
Voice, Face, Lip Movement
Fingerprint, Face
Fingerprint, Face, Voice
Fingerprint, Face, Hand geometry
Fingerprint, Voice, Hand geometry
Fingerprint, Hand geometry
Facial thermogram, Face
Iris, Face
Palmprint, Hand geometry
Ear, Voice

Multibiometrics: Research Directions

- New biometric modalities
- New sensors
- More advanced fusion techniques
- Application to mobile devices
- Advanced surveillance and behavior detection
- New antispoofing methods
- ...



High bitrate Mid bitrate Low bitrate

Continuous / Periodic Authentication: Research Directions

- Keystroke dynamics, mouse movements
- Face, iris
- Gesture
- Voice
- Gait for mobile devices
- Research directions:
 - user-friendly biometrics
 - soft biometrics
 - behavior prediction
 - IoT integration
 - ...



Forgery / Spoofing: Research Directions

- From physical objects
- At a distance
- From social networks
- New anti-spoofing techniques based on liveness (termic, 3D, motion, heart beats, breath, ...)



Deepfake: Research Directions

- Digital manipulation of biometric traits by means of generative techniques
- Create fake biometrics
- Fake photos and video are used for fake news



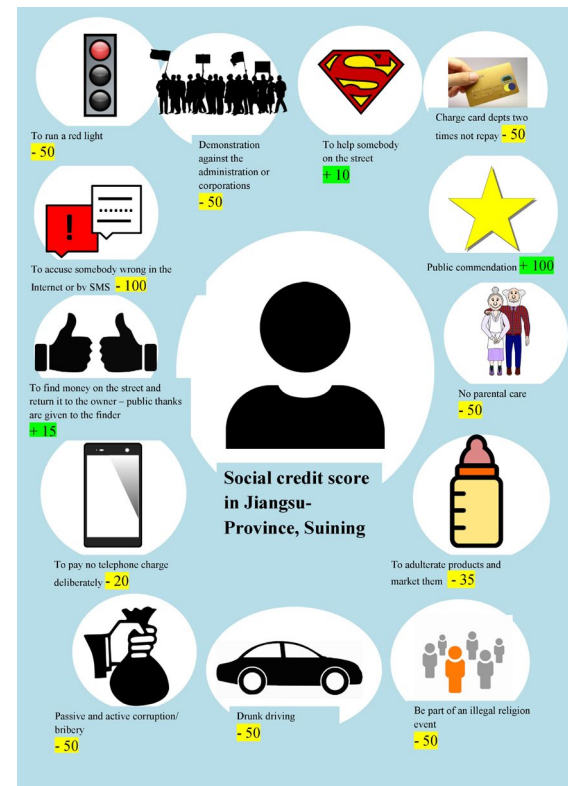
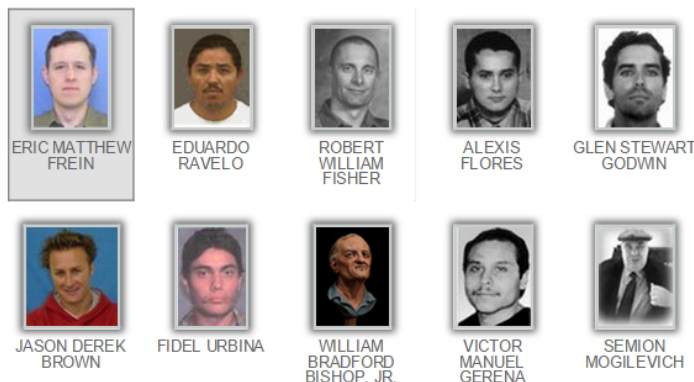
Unauthorized / Unintended Use: Research Directions

- Biometric information sent to a biometric-based system should be used only for the intended purpose
- Inclusion in proscription lists without individual is informed
- Evaluation of social credits

Ten Most Wanted

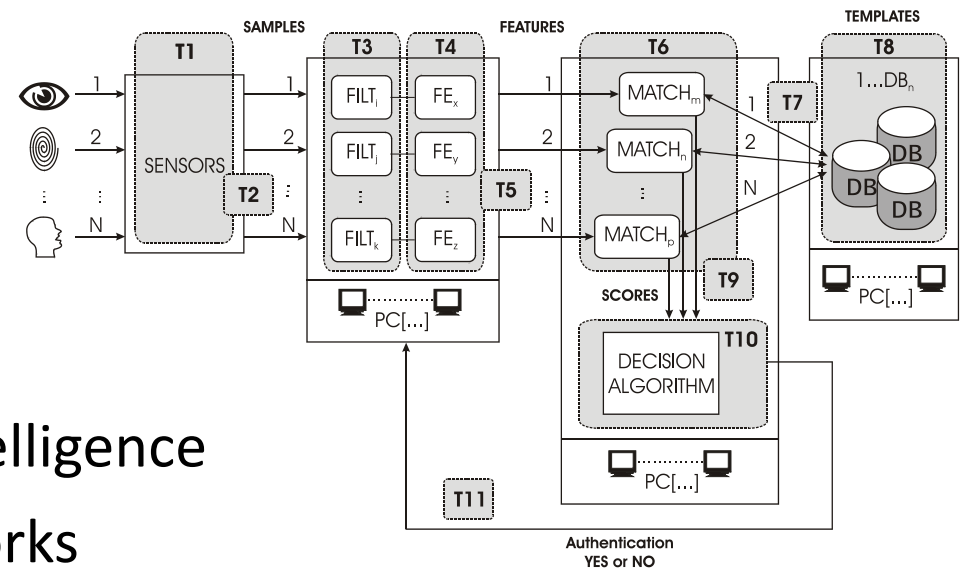
The FBI is offering rewards for information leading to the apprehension of the Ten Most Wanted Fugitives. Select the images of suspects to display more information.

Facts on the Program | Historical Photos of Each Top Tenner | 60th Anniversary Booklet

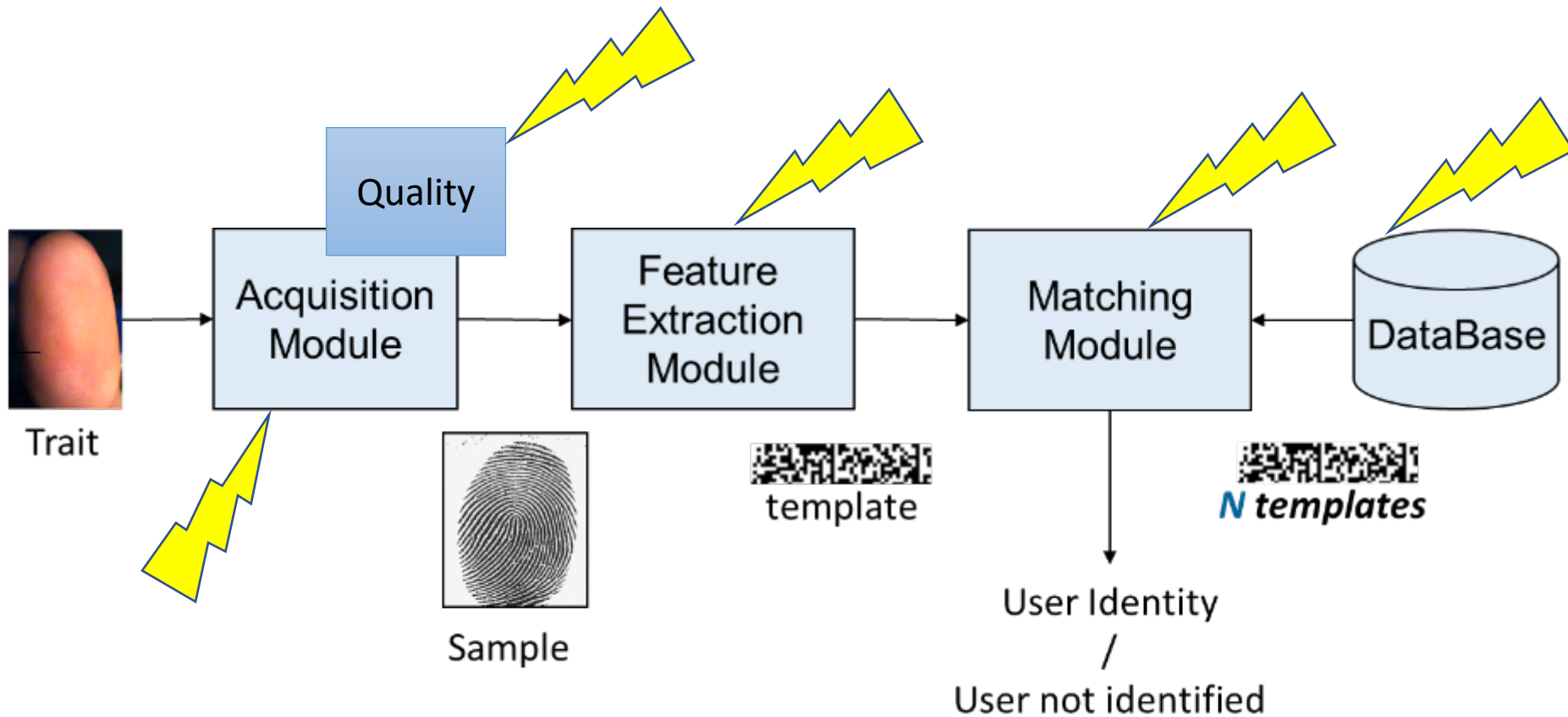


Distributed Biometric Systems: Research Directions

- Distributed search
- Distributed match
- Interoperability
- Trustability
- Applications in ambient intelligence
- Applications in social networks
- Applications in Industry 4.0
- Analysis by artificial intelligence approaches
- ...



Artificial Intelligence: Research Directions (1)



Artificial Intelligence: Research Directions (2)

AI for Data Augmentation



Landmark perturbation for face alignment.

Flipping
patches (clipping)
color casting
blurring



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



(e)



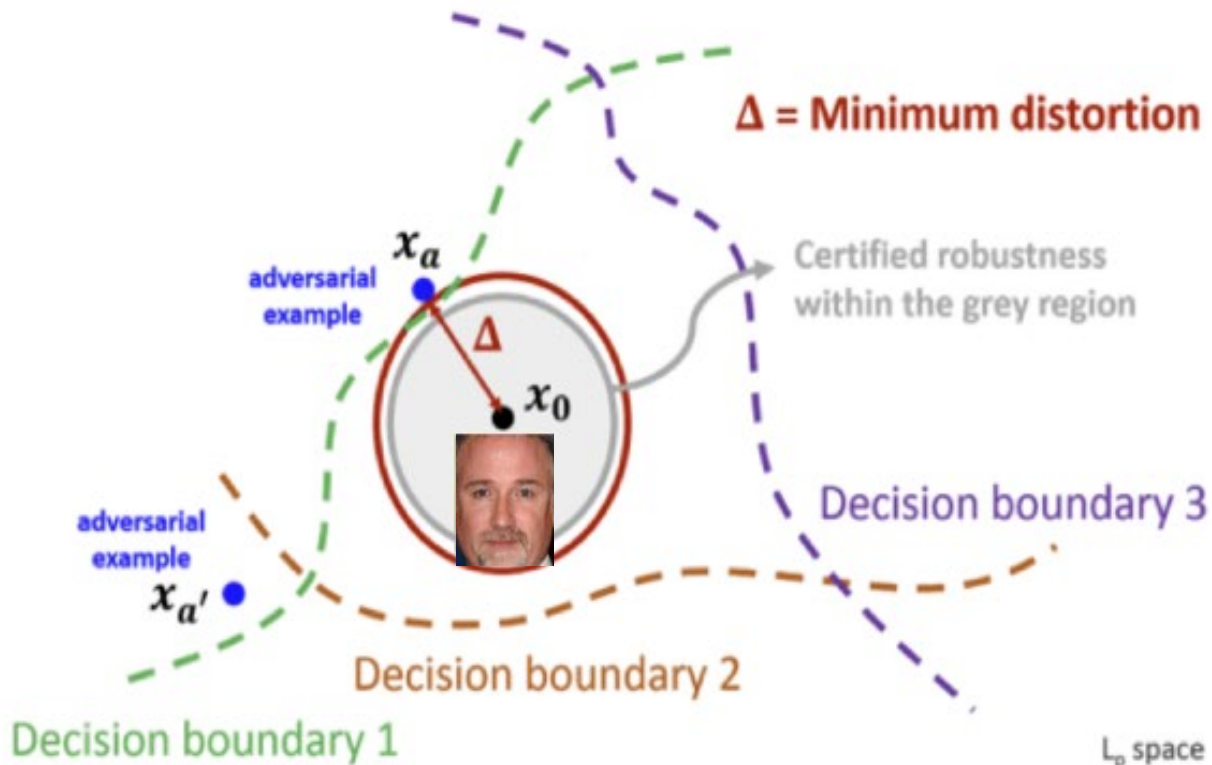
(f)



Artificial Intelligence: Research Directions (3)

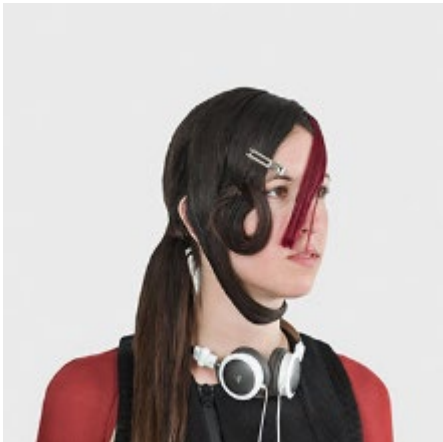
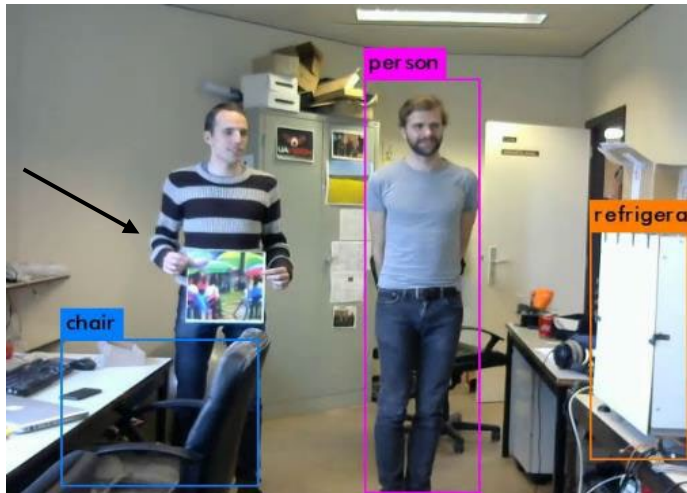
AI for Recognition Robustness

Generative Adversarial Networks

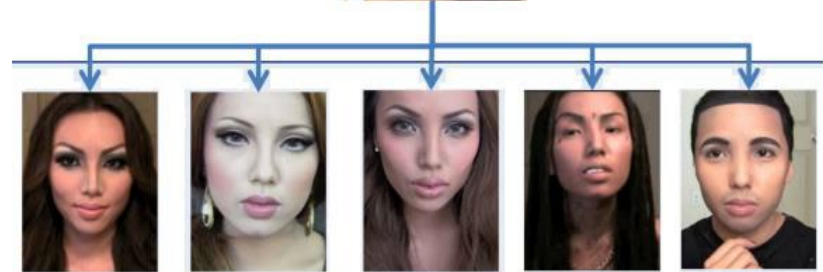


Artificial Intelligence: Research Directions (4)

AI for Identity Concealing Detection



subject #1
before
makeup



subject #1
after
makeup



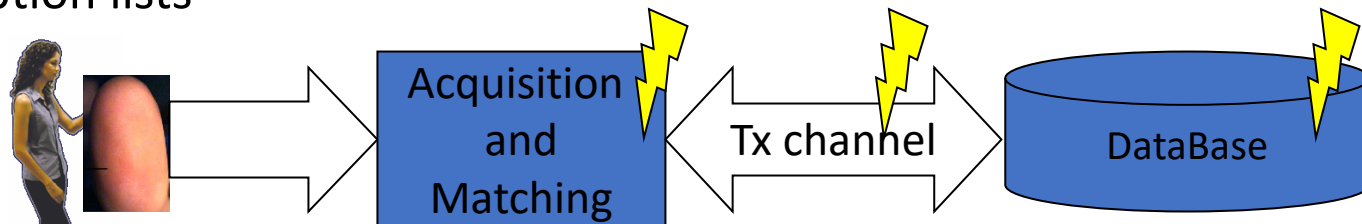
targets

Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (1)

- Control over use and disclosure of personal identity and information
- Biometric personal identity must be protected
- Biometric traits cannot be replaced
- Use of stolen biometric traits
 - Access to personal information
 - Impersonation
 - Misuse
 - Proscription lists



... using cards and documents



... using real time systems

Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (2)

Privacy in Biometric Applications

1. **Privacy-protective** applications

Biometrics protects personal information that might otherwise be compromised like enterprise security,...

2. **Privacy-sympathetic** applications

Designed considering privacy protection techniques, most of the current applications

3. **Privacy-neutral** applications

Authentication systems for electronic devices

4. **Privacy-invasive** applications

Surveillance applications and some national ID services



Privacy++

Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (3)

Risk Analysis



Lower Risk Of Privacy Invasiveness

Greater Risk Of Privacy Invasiveness



Overt

1. Is the system deployed overtly or covertly?

Covert

Optional

2. Is the system optional or mandatory?

Mandatory



Verification

3. Is the system used for identification or verification?

Identification

Fixed Period

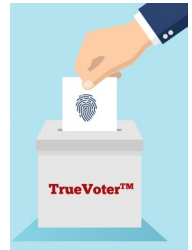
4. Is the system deployed for a fixed period of time?

Indefinite

Private Sector

5. Is the system deployed in the public or the private sector?

Public Sector



Individual, Customer

6. In what capacity is the user interacting with the system?

Employee, Citizen

Enrollee

7. Who owns the biometric information?

Institution

Personal Storage

8. Where is the biometric data stored?

Database Storage

Behavioral

9. What type of biometric technology is being deployed?

Physiological

Templates

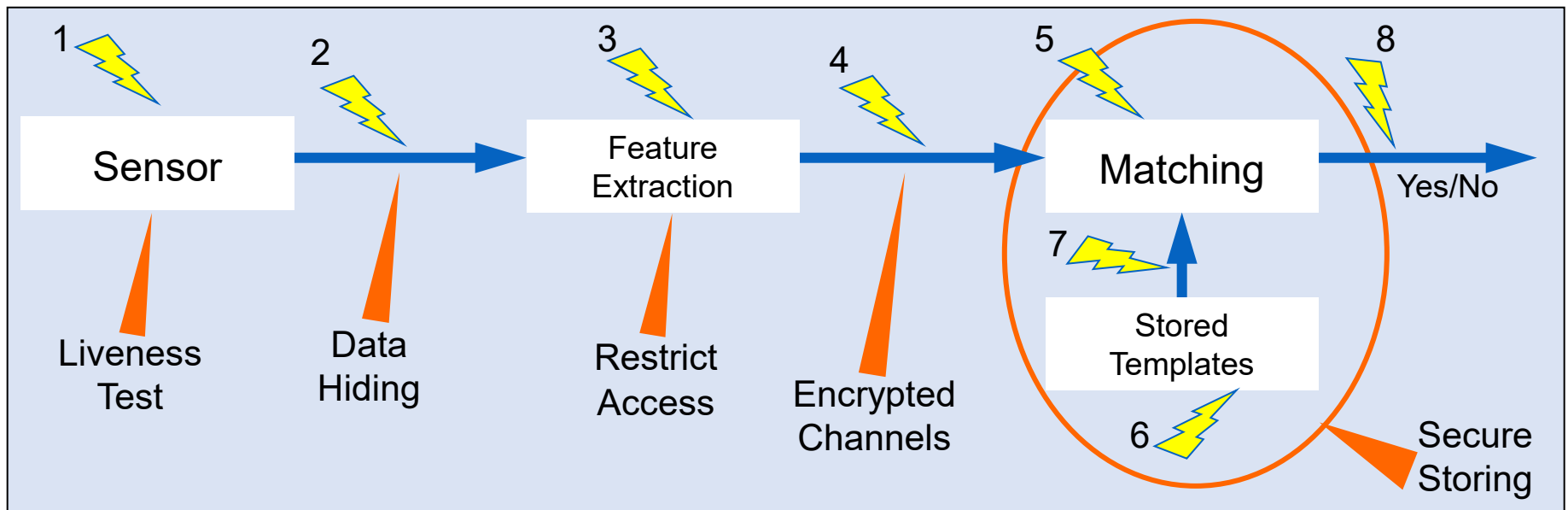
10. Does the system utilize biometric templates, biometric images, or both?

Images



Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (4)

Biometric Privacy Protection: Attack Points



1. Fake biometrics
2. Replay attack
3. Override (Trojan Horse)
4. Tamper with features
5. Modify match score
6. Tamper with Templates DB
7. Intercept and Modify
8. Override the final decision

Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (5)

Biometric Privacy Protection: Approaches

- Central Repository
Centralized protection
- Distributed Repository
Anonymization by distribution
- Smart Hardware
Privacy rules embedded in hardware
- Smart Data
Encapsulate access methods inside the data

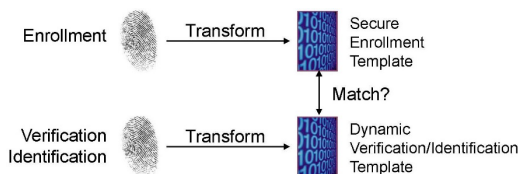


Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (6)

Biometric Privacy Protection: Techniques

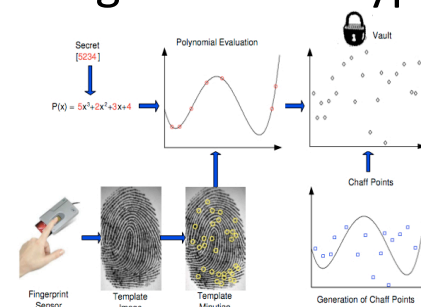
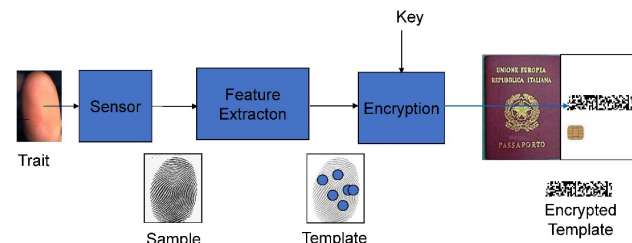
Techniques

- Key-generating, Key-binding, Biometric encryption
- Feature Transformation, Helper Data Approach
- Fuzzy Commitment, Fuzzy Vault, Fuzzy Extractor
- Secure Sketch, Bio-Hashing, Revocable Bio-Token, Biotope
- Bio-Encryptor , ...



Research Directions

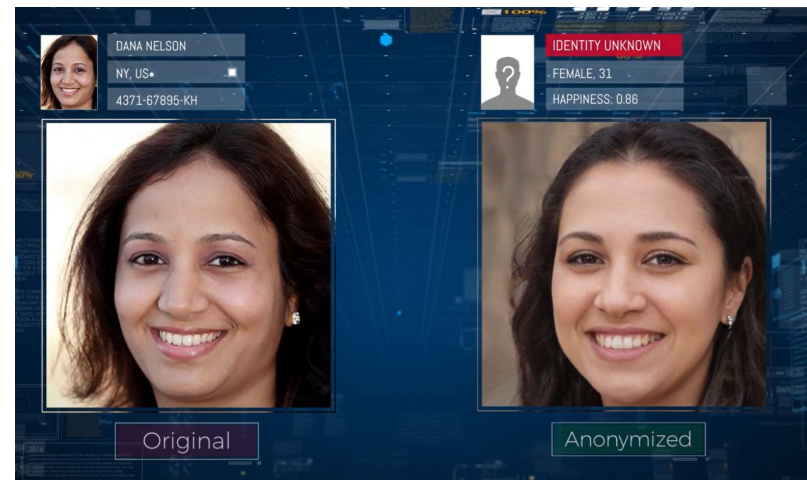
- Advanced non-invertible transformations
- Cancellable / revokable biometrics
- Advanced homomorphic encryption for processing in the encrypted domain
- AI for processing in encrypted domain
- Anonymization
- Decentralized biometric cryptosystems, ...



Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (7)

Image and Video Anonymization

Personally Identifiable Information can be removed by advanced computer vision, AI and deep learning, while preserving key biometric attributes



Biometric Privacy: Research Directions (8)

Personalized Interactions

- Social networks
- Sentiment analysis
- Virtual assistants
- e-commerce systems
- Market analysis
- ...



Biometric Privacy: Regulations

- European Union: General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
 - biometric data: special category of personal data
 - prohibit processing and storage by third parties without consent
 - prohibit processing for uniquely identifying a natural person, with exceptions (given consent, controller's obligations, other laws, individual's vital interests, critical in legal claims, public health)
 - clear scope and capabilities of the system
 - ensure user control of personal data: right to be forgotten
 - disclosure and accountability: data breach must be notified within 72 hours
 - auditing
 - privacy by design and by default
- U.K.: UK GDPR – regulation compliant with GDPR
- California: California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) and California Privacy Rights Act (CPRA)
- New York and Virginia follow California
- China: Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL)
- U.S.A. at federal level and India are considering regulations

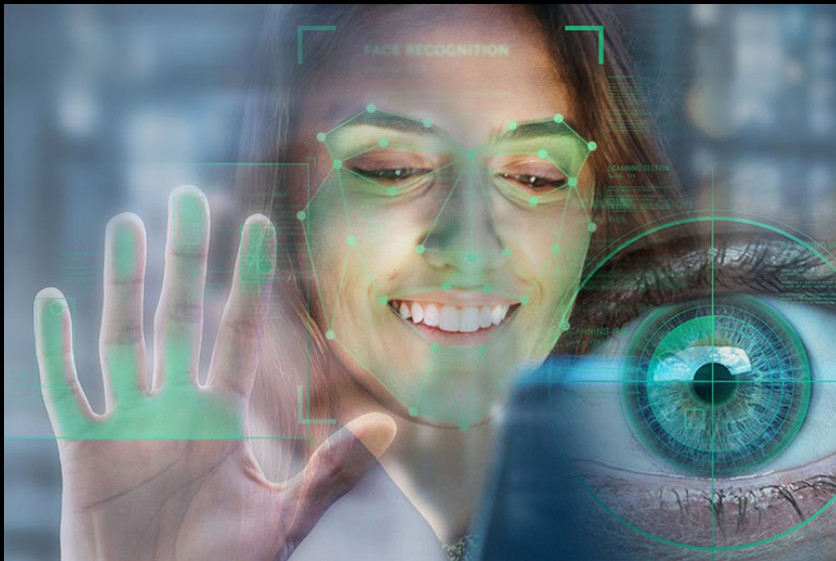


Ethics in Biometrics

- *Do not harm*: avoid actions that harm people or the environment.
- *Collection*: explicit consensus and clarity in collection purpose.
- *Identity theft*: do not breach systems, steal biometric data that are ineffectively secured, and impersonate individuals.
- *Respect personal data*: when shared, stored, and processed, personal data must be respected and treated with care.
- *Misuse*: biometric data used only for collection-declared purpose.
- *Justice and accountability*: biometrics should be open, transparent, and accountable.
- *Technology quality*: biometric technology should benchmark quality, including accuracy, error detection, repair systems, and protection.
- *Human rights*: applications and use should align with human rights.
- *Equality*: biometric technology should not discriminate based on religion, age, gender, race, sexuality, or others.



Biometrics: technologies, challenges, and research directions



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