

Morphing Attack Detection

Christoph Busch

copy of slides available at:

<https://christoph-busch.de/about-talks-slides.html>

more information at:

<https://christoph-busch.de/projects-mad.html>

2023 EAB and CITeR Biometrics Workshop
April 19, 2023

Agenda

- Vulnerability of Face Recognition Systems
- Morphing Attack Detection (MAD) - Scenarios and Methods
- Automated Face Morphing Attack Detection
- Human examiners at Face Morphing Attack Detection
- Conclusion

Border Security depends on Passport Security

The passport is the security anchor

- One individual - **one** passport



Principle of **unique link** of ICAO

- ICAO - International Civil Aviation Organisation
- **One** individual - one passport
- ICAO 9303 part 2, 2006:
*„**Additional security measures:** inclusion of a machine verifiable biometric feature **linking** the document to its **legitimate holder**“*



image source: <https://pixabay.com/de/vectors/tick-sterchen-kreuz-rot-gr%C3%BCn-40678/>

Border Security depends on Passport Security

Principle of unique link of ICAO

- **One** individual - one passport



We don't want this principle of **unique link** to be broken

- **Multiple** individuals - one passport

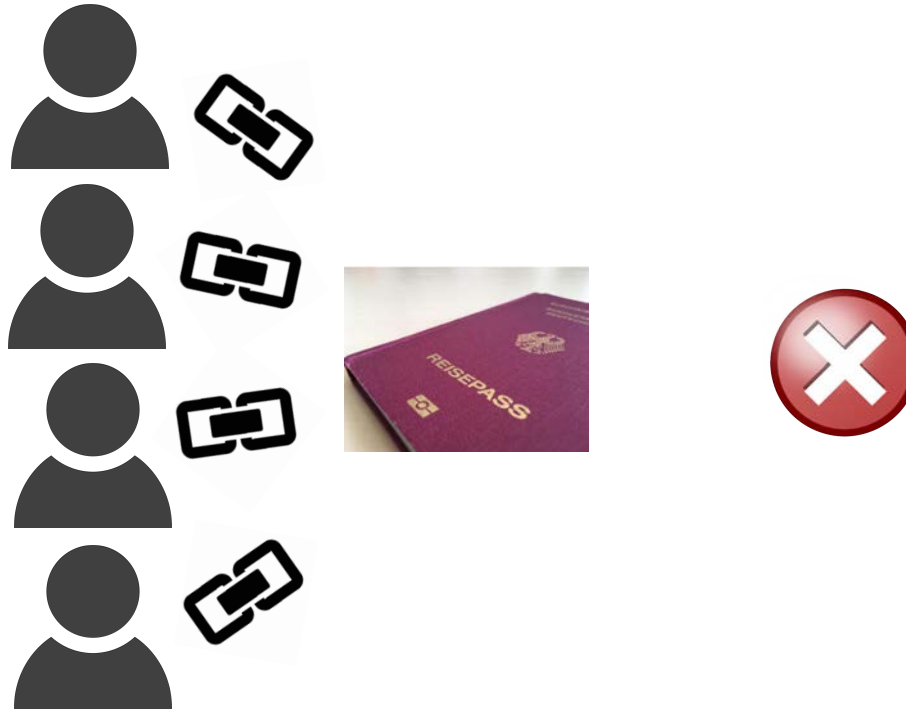


image source: <https://pixabay.com/de/vectors/tick-sternchen-kreuz-rot-gr%C3%BCn-40678/>

Border Control meeting Morphing Attacks

Is it a real problem ? - **YES!**

Report by the **Slovenian Police** [Tork2021]

- Reported in September 2021 that in last 12 month more than 40 morphing cases
 - ▶ were detected at Airport Police in Ljubljana
- **Business model:**
 - ▶ Albanian citizens, applying for a Slovenian passport
 - ▶ offered as a professional **service travel route** via Vienna and Warsaw to Canada

[Tork2021] Matjaž Torkar: “Morphing Cases in Slovenia”, German Biometric Working Group, (2021), <https://eab.org/events/program/220>

Solution for Morphing Attacks

Possible **solutions** to the Morphing Attack Problem:

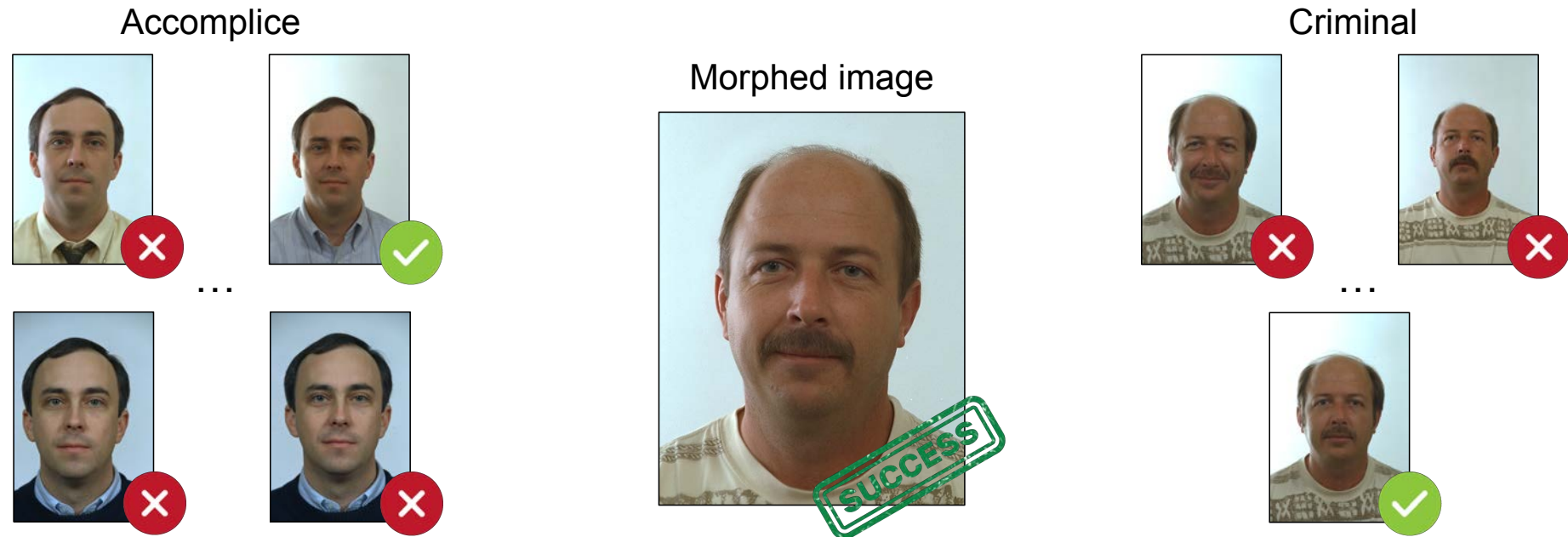
- 1.) Photo studio should **digitally sign** the picture taken by Photo Studio and send it to the passport application office
 - ▶ this is in progress for Finland
- 2.) Switch to **live enrolment**
 - ▶ that is the case for Norway, Sweden, Hungary
 - ▶ EU Regulation 2019/1157:
on strengthening the security of identity cards in recital 32 states:
*"... To this end, Member States **could consider** collecting biometric identifiers, particularly the facial image, by means of **live enrolment** by the national authorities issuing identity cards."*
- 3.) Software-supported **detection** of morphed face images

What is the size of the problem?
What is the vulnerability of FRS?

Measure the Vulnerability

Mated Morph Presentation Match Rate (MMPMR)

- A morphing attack **succeeds** if the morphed image can be successfully verified against **at least one** of the probe images of **each** subject.



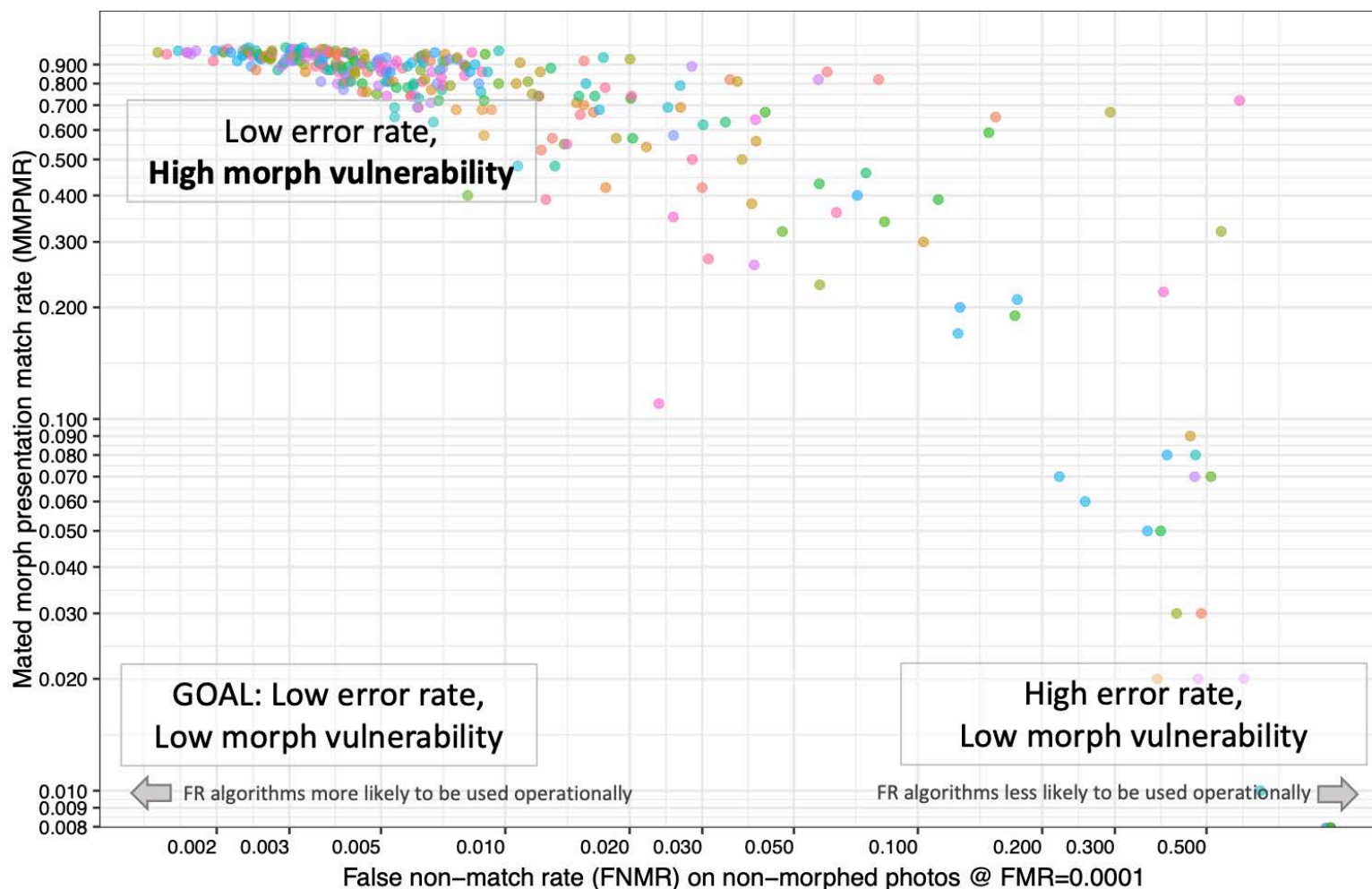
Source: M. Ferrara, IWBF-2022

[SNRG+17] U. Scherhag, A. Nautsch, C. Rathgeb, M. Gomez-Barrero, R. Veldhuis, L. Spreeuwers, M. Schils, D. Maltoni, P. Grother, S. Marcel, R. Breithaupt, R. Raghavendra, C. Busch: "Biometric Systems under Morphing Attacks: Assessment of Morphing Techniques and Vulnerability Reporting", in Proceedings BIOSIG, (2017)

Scale of the Problem: Vulnerability of FRS

NIST IR 8430 report on FRS vulnerability [Ngan2022]

- **Accurate** FRS are **more vulnerable!**



[Ngan2022] NIST IR 8430: "FRVT MORPH: Utility of 1:N Face Recognition Algorithms for Morph Detection", 2022
https://pages.nist.gov/frvt/reports/morph/frvt_morph_4A_NISTIR_8430.pdf

Scale of the Problem: Vulnerability of FRS

The **morphing attack paradox**

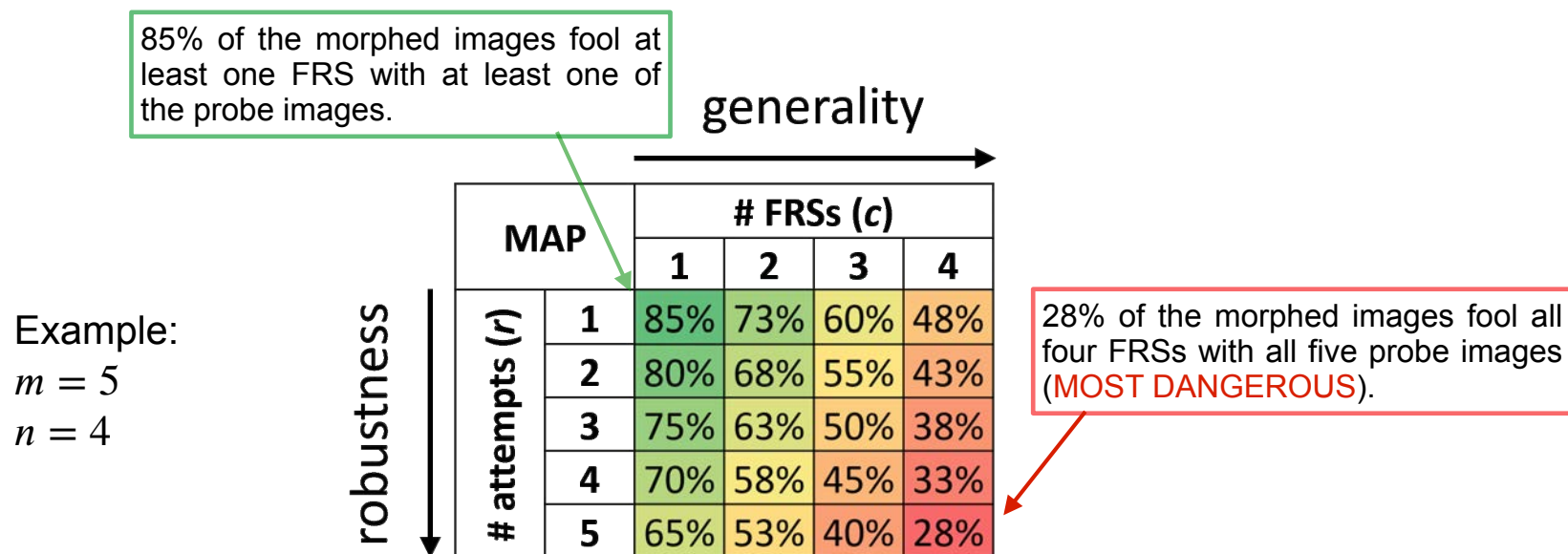
- The better the face recognition system (FRS)
 - ▶ the lower the false non-match rate (FNMR)
 - ▶ the more **tolerant** is the FRS at the defined FMR (e.g. 0.01 %)
- The more tolerance the FRS has
 - ▶ the more **vulnerability** we can observe
- **Accurate FRS are more vulnerable!**



Morphing Attack Potential

Definition of Morphing Attack Potential (MAP)

- Given a **dataset** of morphed images \mathbb{M} , m probe images for each contributing subject and n FRSs to evaluate, **MAP** is defined as a **matrix** of size $m \times n$ whose element $MAP[r,c]$ reports the **proportion** of morphed images **successfully verified** with **both** contributing subjects with at least r probe images by at least c FRSs.

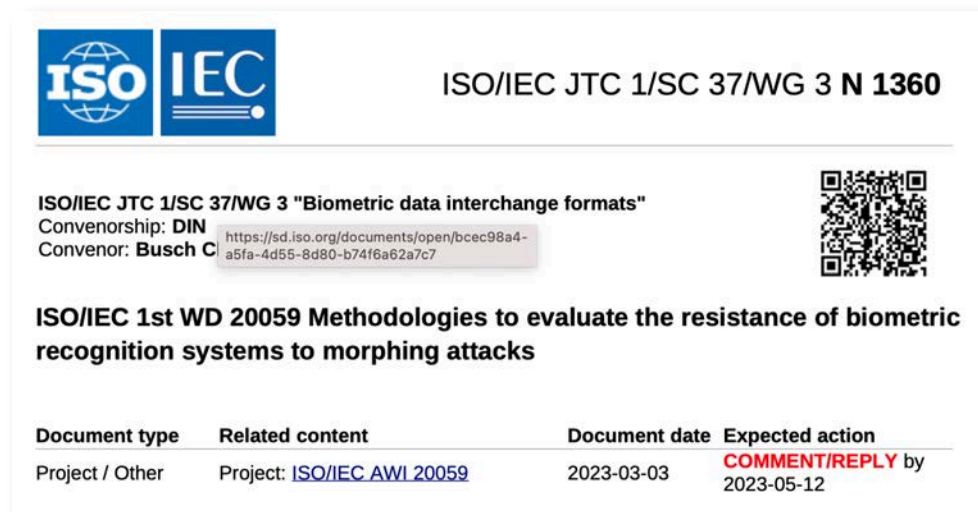


[Fera2022] M. Ferrara, A. Franco, D. Maltoni, C. Busch: "Morphing Attack Potential", in Proceedings of 10th International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics (IWBF 2022), Salzburg, AT, April 20-21, (2022)

Standardisation

Evaluate the vulnerability / **resistance** of biometric recognition systems to morphing attacks

- ISO/IEC 20059 is based on the Morphing Attack Potential (MAP)
- Comments on the working draft are due on **2023-05-12**



ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37/WG 3 N 1360

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 37/WG 3 "Biometric data interchange formats"

Convenorship: DIN
Convenor: Busch C <https://sd.iso.org/documents/open/bcec98a4-a5fa-4d55-8d80-b74f6a62a7c7>

ISO/IEC 1st WD 20059 Methodologies to evaluate the resistance of biometric recognition systems to morphing attacks

Document type	Related content	Document date	Expected action
Project / Other	Project: ISO/IEC AWI 20059	2023-03-03	COMMENT/REPLY by 2023-05-12

- Join ISO/IEC JTC1 SC37: <https://www.iso.org/members.html>
- A free copy of ISO/IEC WD 20059 is available at: <https://lnkd.in/dvbS6jxt>

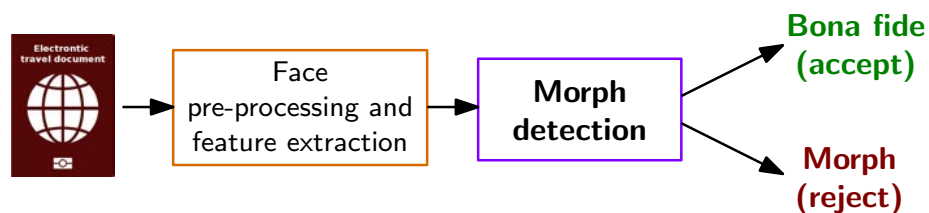
Morphing Attack Detection (MAD)

Scenarios and Methods

Morphing Attack Detection Scenarios

Real world scenarios

- **Single image** morphing attack detection (S-MAD)
 - ▶ One **single suspected facial image** is analysed (e.g. in the passport application)

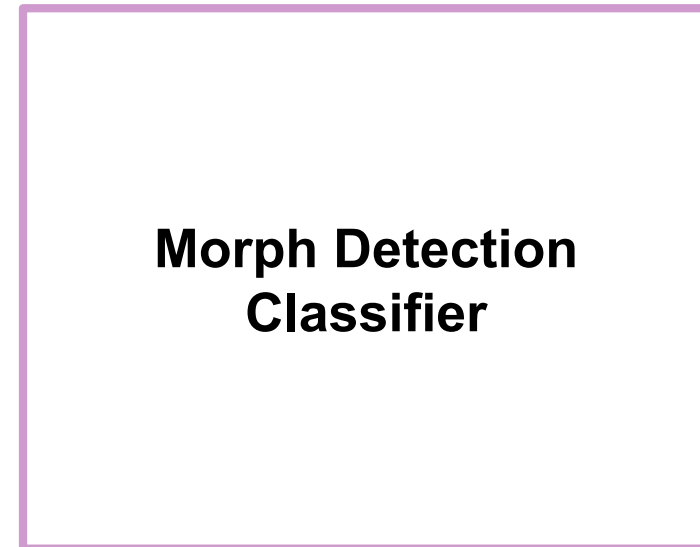
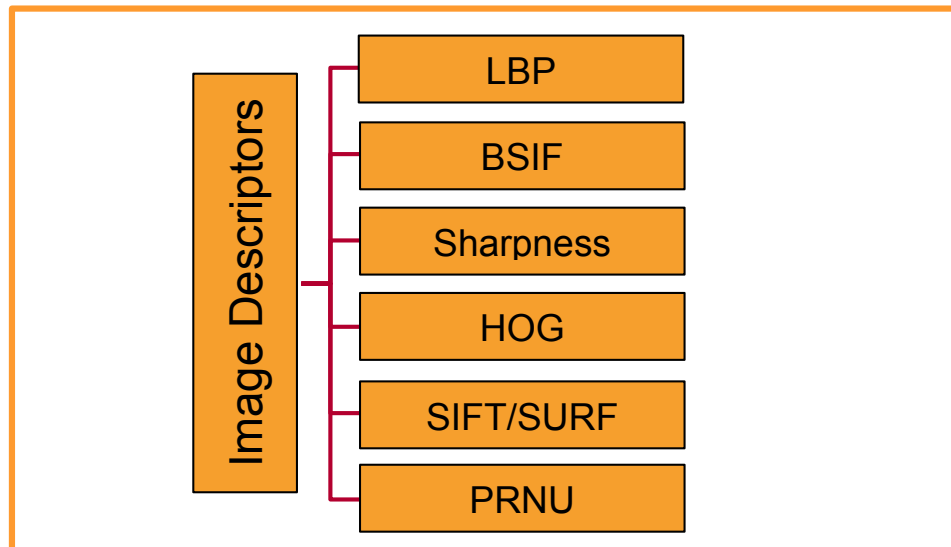
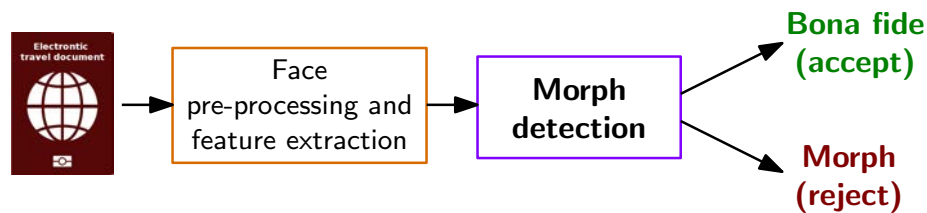


[SRB2018a] U. Scherhag, C. Rathgeb, C. Busch: "Towards Detection of Morphed Face Images in electronic Travel Documents", in Proceedings of the 13th IAPR International Workshop on Document Analysis Systems (DAS), April 24-27, (2018)

Face Pre-processing and Feature Extraction

Morphing Attack Detection (S-MAD) with texture analysis

- Image descriptors as **hand-crafted** features

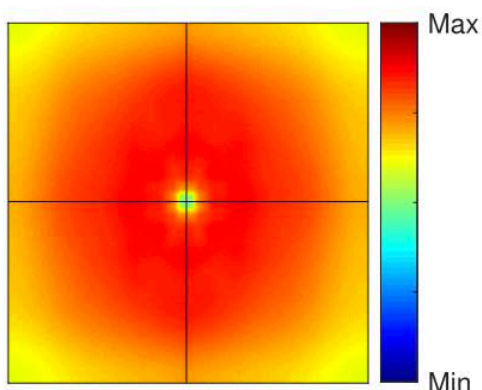
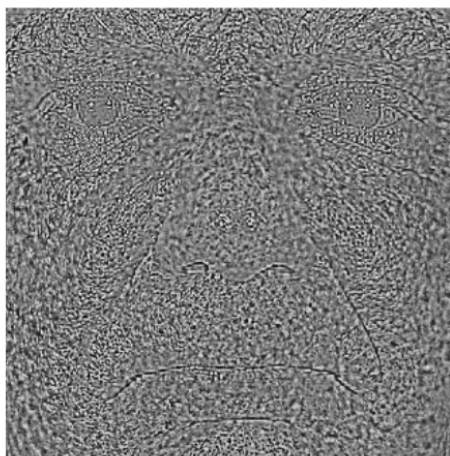
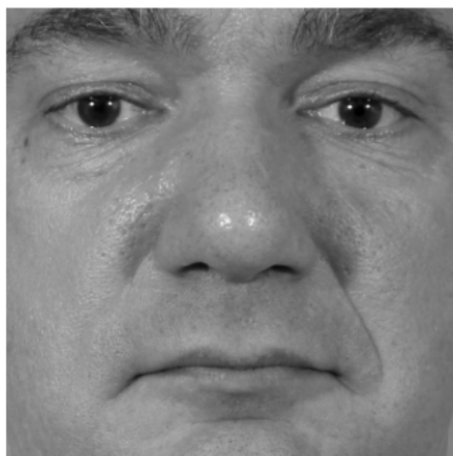


[SRB2018b] U. Scherhag, C. Rathgeb, C. Busch: „Detection of Morphed Faces from Single Images: a Multi-Algorithm Fusion Approach“, in Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference on Biometric Engineering and Applications (ICBEA), Amsterdam, The Netherlands, May 16-18, (2018)

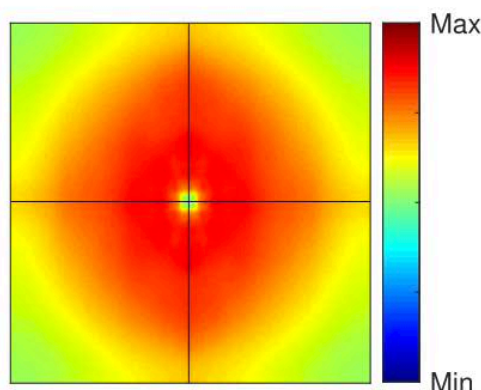
Face Pre-processing and Feature Extraction

S-MAD with image descriptor / forensic approach

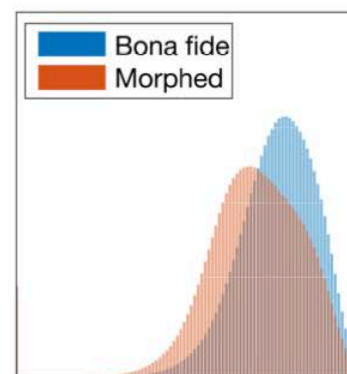
- Photo Response Non-Uniformity (PRNU)



Bona Fide



Morph



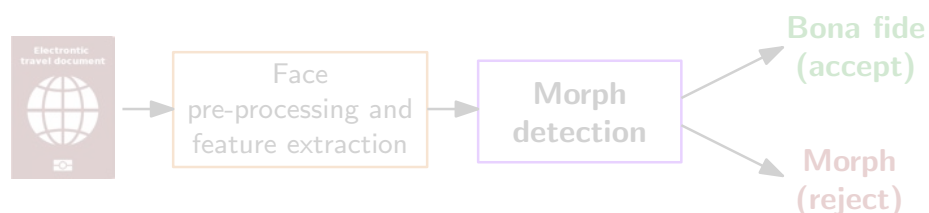
Histograms

[SDRBU2019] U. Scherhag, L. Debiasi, C. Rathgeb, C. Busch and A. Uhl: "Detection of Face Morphing Attacks based on PRNU Analysis", in IEEE TBIOM, (2019)

Morphing Attack Detection Scenarios

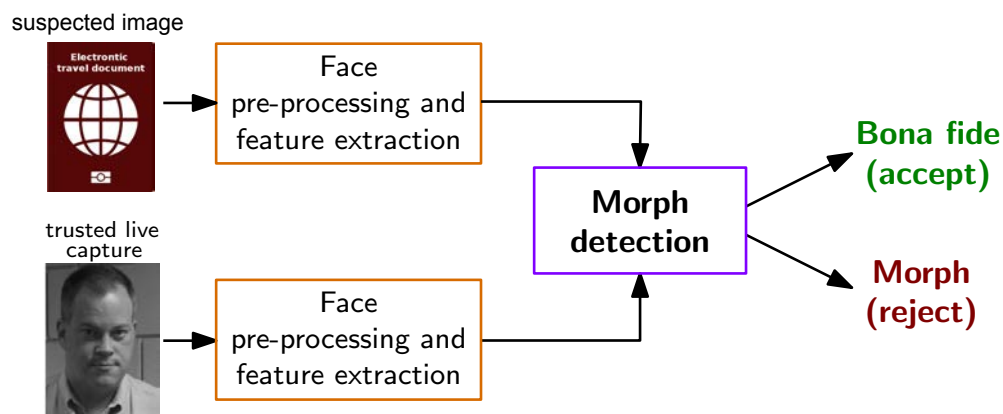
Real world scenarios

- Single image morphing attack detection (S-MAD)
 - ▶ One **single suspected** facial **image** is analysed (e.g. in the passport application)



- **Differential** morphing attack detection (D-MAD)

- ▶ A **pair** of images is analysed - and one is a trusted Bona Fide image
- ▶ Biometric verification (e.g. at the border)

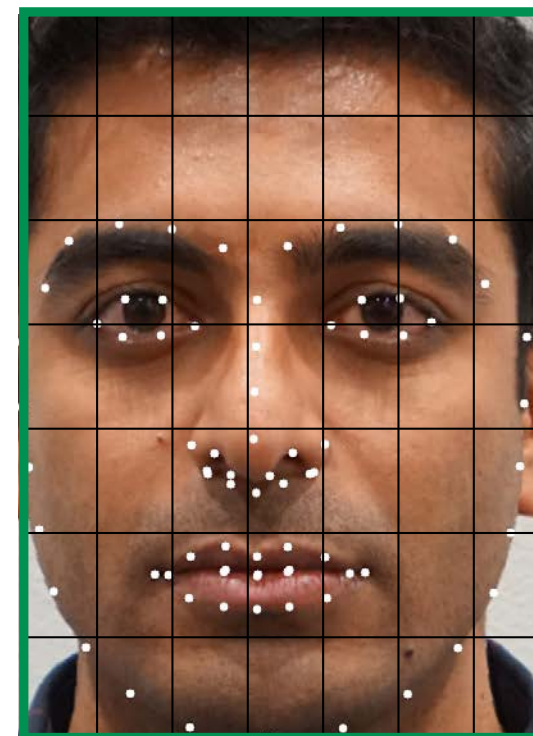
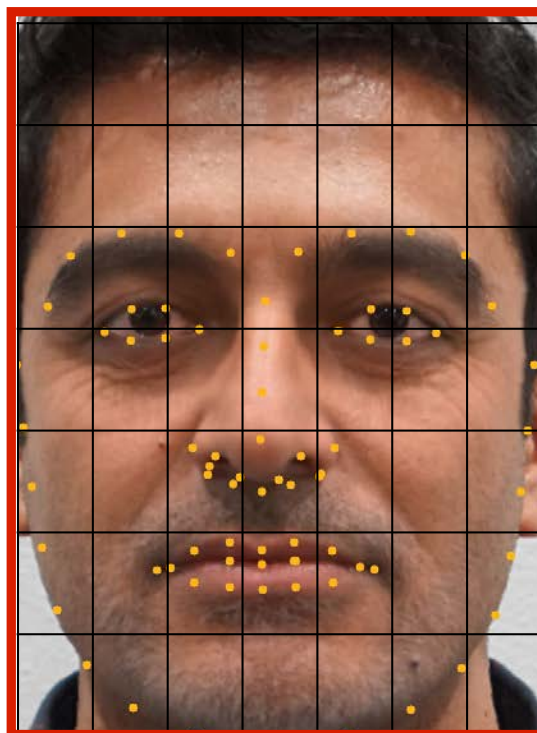
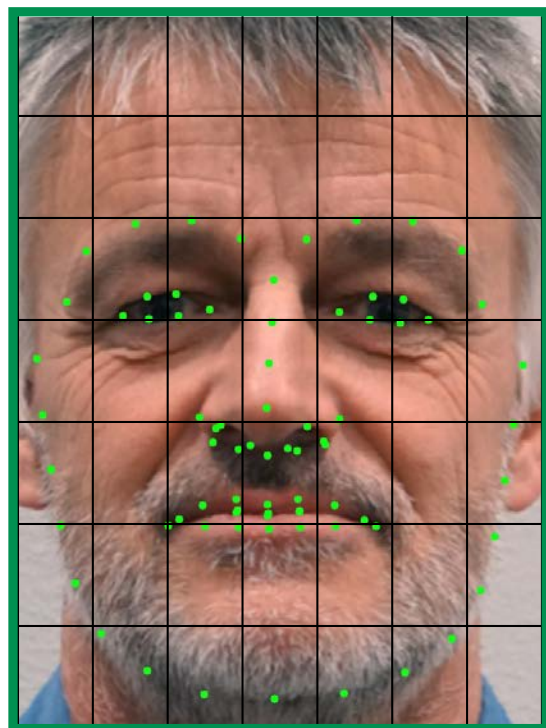
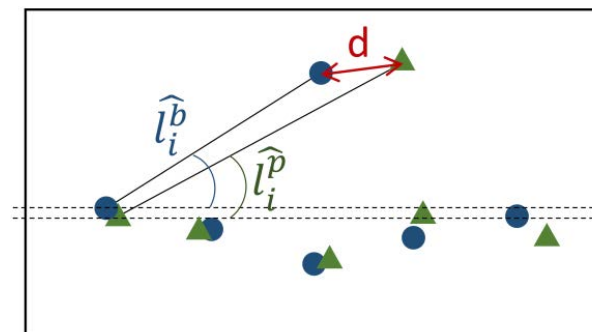


[SRB2018a] U. Scherhag, C. Rathgeb, C. Busch: "Towards Detection of Morphed Face Images in electronic Travel Documents", in Proceedings of the 13th IAPR International Workshop on Document Analysis Systems (DAS), April 24-27, (2018)

Differential Morphing Attack Detection

D-MAD with landmark analysis

- **Angle** based features
- **Distance** based features

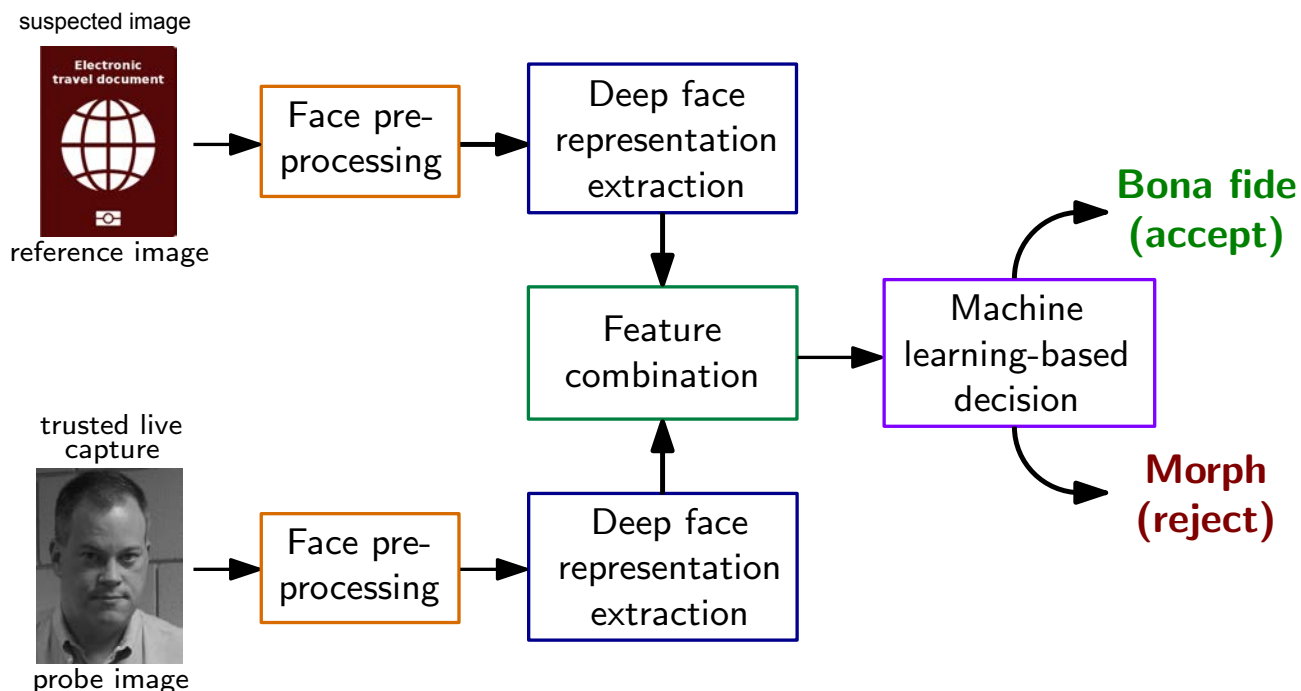


[SDGB2018] U. Scherhag, D. Budhrani, M. Gomez-Barrero, C. Busch: "Detecting Morphed Face Images Using Facial Landmarks", in Proceedings of International Conference on Image and Signal Processing (ICISP), (2018)

Differential Morphing Attack Detection

D-MAD with deep learning

- **Deep Face** representations of Deep CNNs

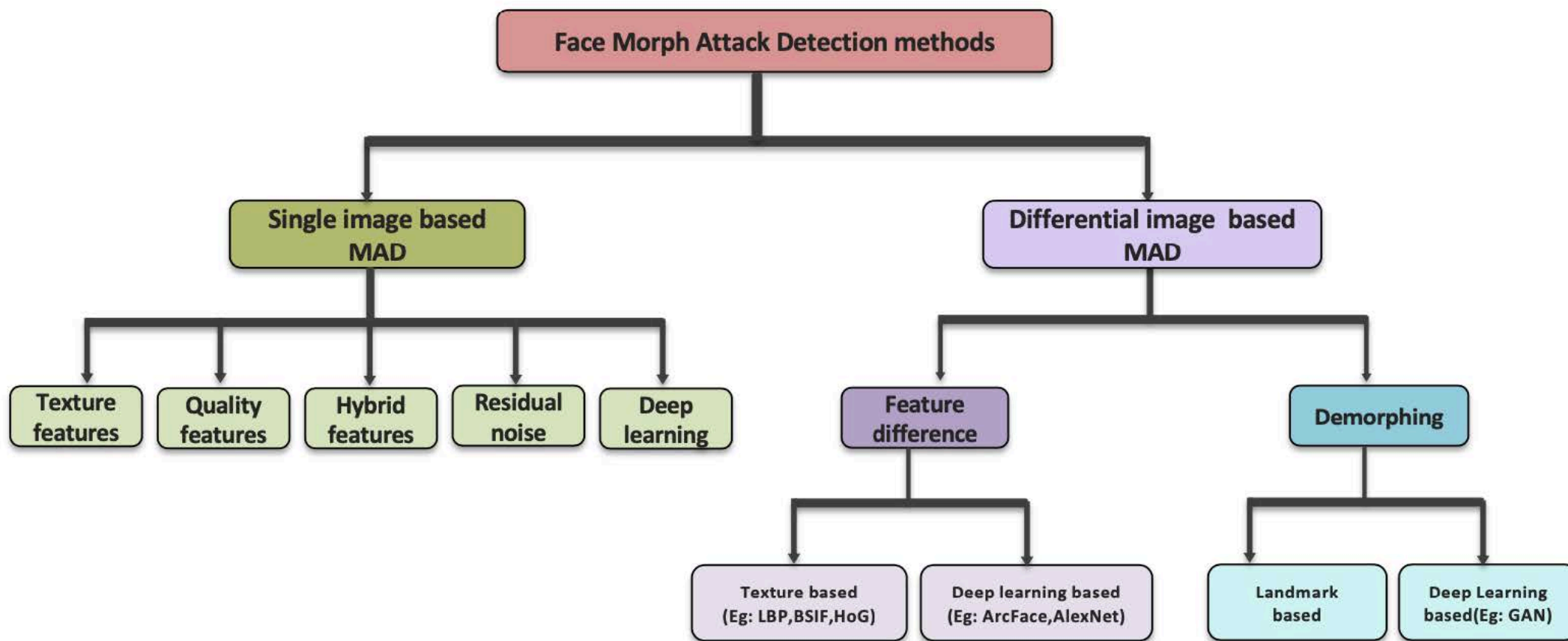


- ▶ Deep representations extracted by the neural network (on the lowest layer)
- ▶ Feature space with **small dimension**: 512 (for ArcFace)
- ▶ SVM with radial basis function

[SRMB2020] U. Scherhag, C. Rathgeb, J. Merkle, C. Busch: "Deep Face Representations for Differential Morphing Attack Detection", in IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS), (2020)

State of the Art - MAD Algorithms

Taxonomy of Morphing Attack Detection



[Venkatesh2021] S. Venkatesh, R. Raghavendra, K. Raja, C. Busch: "Face Morphing Attack Generation & Detection: A Comprehensive Survey", in IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society (TTS), (2021)

MAD Evaluation

Bologna Online Evaluation Platform (BOEP)

- SOTAMD dataset

<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9246583>

Morphing Attack Detection - Database, Evaluation Platform and Benchmarking

Kiran Raja*, Matteo Ferrara[†], Annalisa Franco[†], Luuk Spreeuwers[‡], Ilias Batskos[‡], Florens de Wit[‡], Marta Gomez-Barrero**, Ulrich Scherhag^{††}, Daniel Fischer^{††}, Sushma Venkatesh*, Jag Mohan Singh*, Guoqiang Li*, Loïc Bergeron*, Sergey Isadskiy^{††}, Raghavendra Ramachandra*, Christian Rathgeb^{††}, Dinusha Frings[§], Uwe Seidel^{††}, Fons Knopjes[§], Raymond Veldhuis[‡], Davide Maltoni[†], Christoph Busch*
**NTNU, Norway, [†]UBO, Italy, [‡]UTW, The Netherlands, **HS-Ansbach, Germany, ^{††}HDA, Germany, [§]NOI, The Netherlands, ^{††}Bundeskriminalamt, Germany*

Abstract—Morphing attacks have posed a severe threat to Face Recognition System (FRS). Despite the number of advancements reported in recent works, we note serious open issues such as independent benchmarking, generalizability challenges and considerations to age, gender, ethnicity that are inadequately addressed. Morphing Attack Detection (MAD) algorithms often are prone to generalization challenges as they are database dependent. The existing databases, mostly of semi-public nature, lack in diversity in terms of ethnicity, various morphing process and post-processing pipelines. Further, they do not reflect a realistic operational scenario for Automated Border Control (ABC) and do not provide a basis to test MAD on unseen data, in order to benchmark the robustness of algorithms. In this work, we present a new sequestered dataset for facilitating the advancements of MAD where the algorithms can be tested on unseen data in an effort to better generalize. The newly constructed dataset consists of facial images from 150 subjects from various ethnicities, age-groups and both genders. In order to challenge the existing MAD algorithms, the morphed images are with careful subject pre-selection created from the contributing images, and further post-processed to remove morphing artifacts. The images are also printed and scanned to remove all digital cues and to simulate a realistic challenge for MAD algorithms. Further, we present a new online evaluation platform to test algorithms on sequestered data. With the platform we can benchmark the morph detection performance and study the generalization ability. This work also presents a detailed analysis on various subsets of sequestered data and outlines open challenges for future directions in MAD research.

Index Terms—Biometrics, Morphing Attack Detection, Face Recognition, Vulnerability of Biometric Systems

[Raja2020] K. Raja, M. Ferrara, A. Franco, L. Spreeuwers, I. Batskos, F. Wit, M. Gomez-Barrero, U. Scherhag, D. Fischer, S. Venkatesh, J. Singh, G. Li, L. Bergeron, S. Isadskiy, R. Raghavendra, C. Rathgeb, D. Frings, U. Seidel, F. Knopjes, R. Veldhuis, D. Maltoni, C. Busch: "Morphing Attack Detection - Database, Evaluation Platform and Benchmarking", in IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS), (2020)

Bologna Online Evaluation Platform (BOEP)

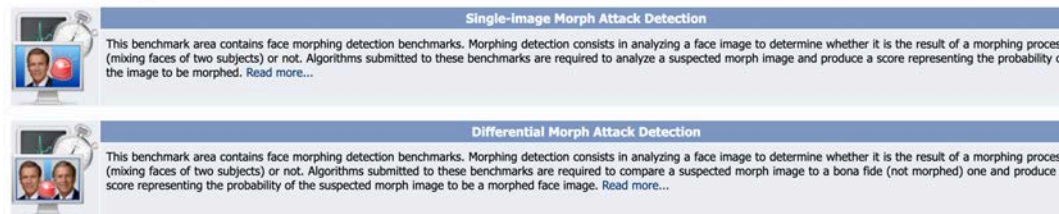
- A new benchmark area for **morphing attack detection**
<https://biolab.csr.unibo.it/fvcongoing/UI/Form/BOEP.aspx>

Bologna Online Evaluation Platform (BOEP) - Morph Attack Detection Evaluation

BOEP is a fully automated web-based evaluation system hosted in the FVC-onGoing framework specifically designed to evaluate Morph Attack Detection (MAD) algorithms. It has been designed and developed in the context of the SOTAMD European project and it is supported by EU funded project iMars.

Benchmark Areas

BOEP contains the following benchmark areas:



Single-image Morph Attack Detection
This benchmark area contains face morphing detection benchmarks. Morphing detection consists in analyzing a face image to determine whether it is the result of a morphing process (mixing faces of two subjects) or not. Algorithms submitted to these benchmarks are required to analyze a suspected morph image and produce a score representing the probability of the image to be morphed. [Read more...](#)

Differential Morph Attack Detection
This benchmark area contains face morphing detection benchmarks. Morphing detection consists in analyzing a face image to determine whether it is the result of a morphing process (mixing faces of two subjects) or not. Algorithms submitted to these benchmarks are required to compare a suspected morph image to a bona fide (not morphed) one and produce a score representing the probability of the suspected morph image to be a morphed face image. [Read more...](#)

- **Both** scenarios: D-MAD and S-MAD
- Two benchmarks to evaluate **different image types**:
 - ▶ **Digital** or **Printed/Scanned** images
- Possibility of analysing results according to specific factors:
 - ▶ **Manual** or **automatic** morphing
 - ▶ Morphing **approaches** and parameters (e.g., morphing factor)
 - ▶ Gender, ethnicity, age, etc.

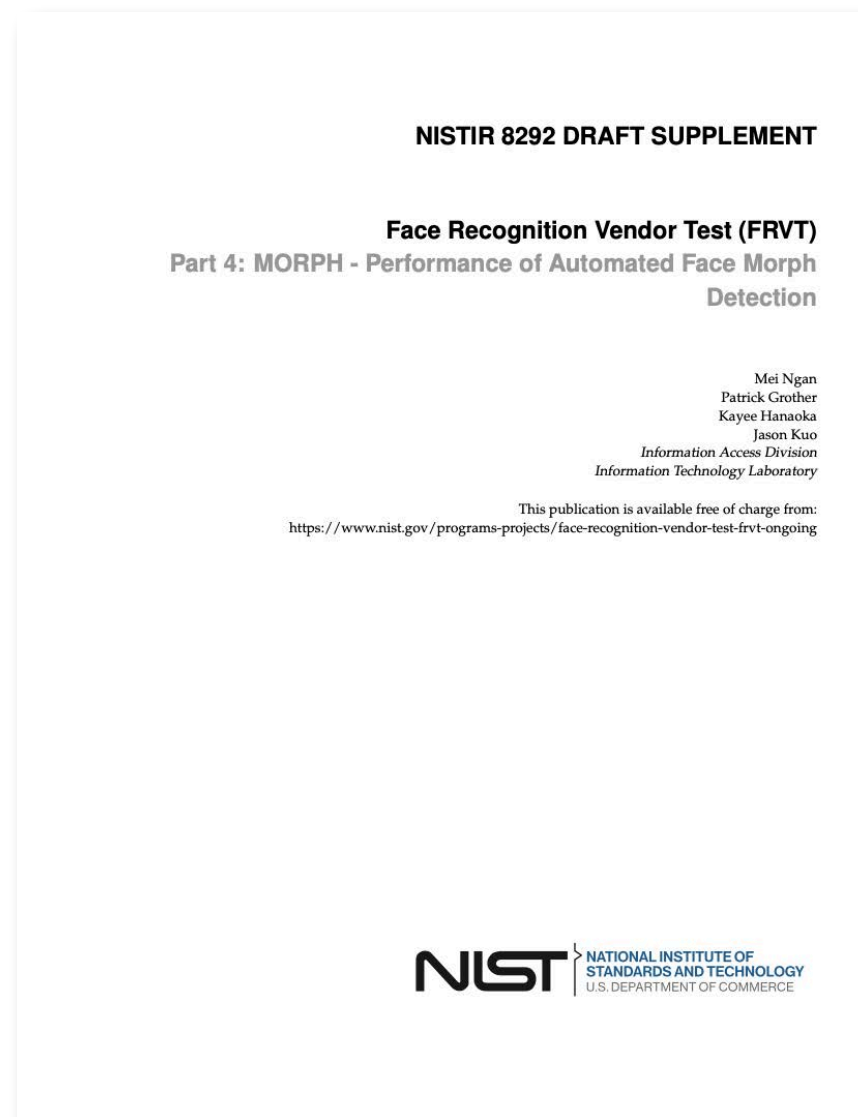
NIST FRVT MORPH

NIST IR 8292 report presented March, 2023

FRVT MORPH

https://pages.nist.gov/frvt/html/frvt_morph.html

- results for MAD algorithms from six research labs:
 - ▶ University of Bologna (UBO)
 - ▶ Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
 - ▶ Hochschule Darmstadt (HDA)
 - ▶ West Virginia University (WVU)
 - ▶ Universidade de Coimbra (VIS)
 - ▶ secunet (SEC)



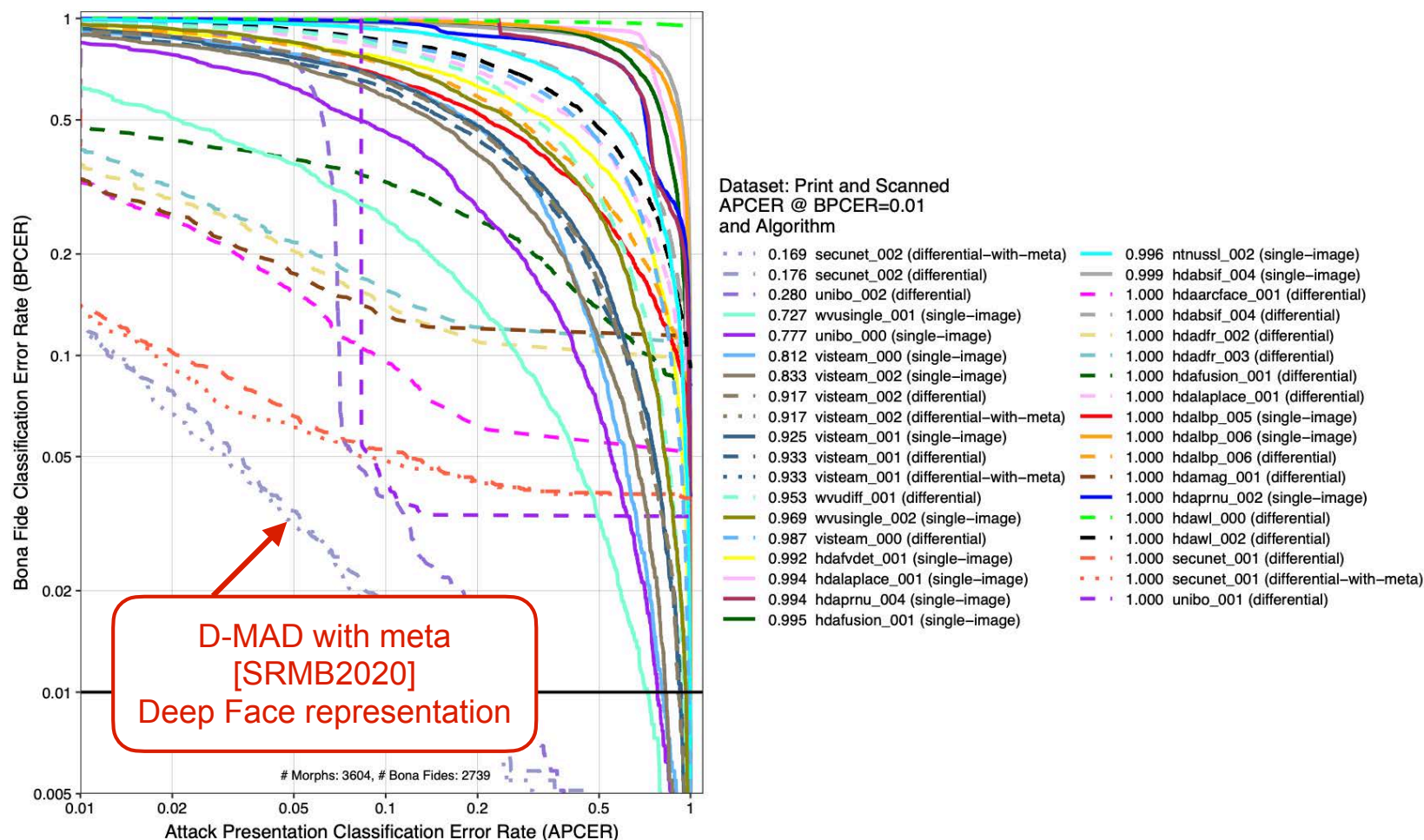
NIST FRVT MORPH

NIST IR 8292 report presented March, 2023

- Performance of Automated Face Morph Detection

https://pages.nist.gov/frvt/reports/morph/frvt_morph_report.pdf

- results for **print and scanned** morphs



Human Experts in MAD

Border guards, case handlers, document examiners

- S-MAD: 410 participants, 400 trials (4 x 100 tasks)
- D-MAD: 469 participants, 180 trials

Single Image Morphing Attack Detection (S-MAD)

Image 1 out of 100 images

Instruction

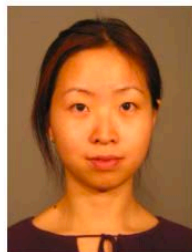
Continue Later

Bona Fide

Morph

Zoom
(Full screen)

You can use mouse wheel
for image zoom-in and
zoom-out



You can take a break at any time during this experiment by clicking 'Continue later' button. You can continue this experiment using the following [link](#)

*Please remember to save your personal code **Thck4**.

Differential Morphing Attack Detection (D-MAD)

Image 1 out of 100 images

Instructions

Continue Later

Bona fide

Morph

Unknown Capture



Trusted Live Capture



You can take a break at any time during this experiment by clicking 'Continue later' button.

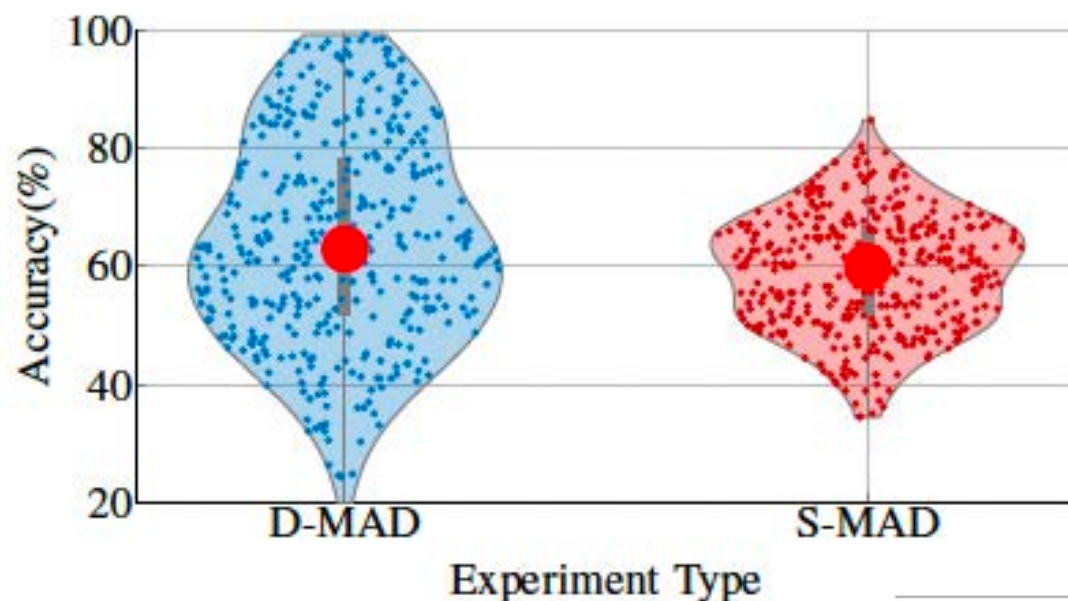
You can continue this experiment using the following [link](#)

*Please remember to save your personal code **MJ7Se**.

[GOD2022] S. Godage, F. Løvåsdal, S. Venkatesh, K. Raja, R. Raghavendra, C. Busch: "Analyzing Human Observer Ability in Morphing Attack Detection - Where Do We Stand?", <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.12426>

Human Experts in MAD

Overall accuracy

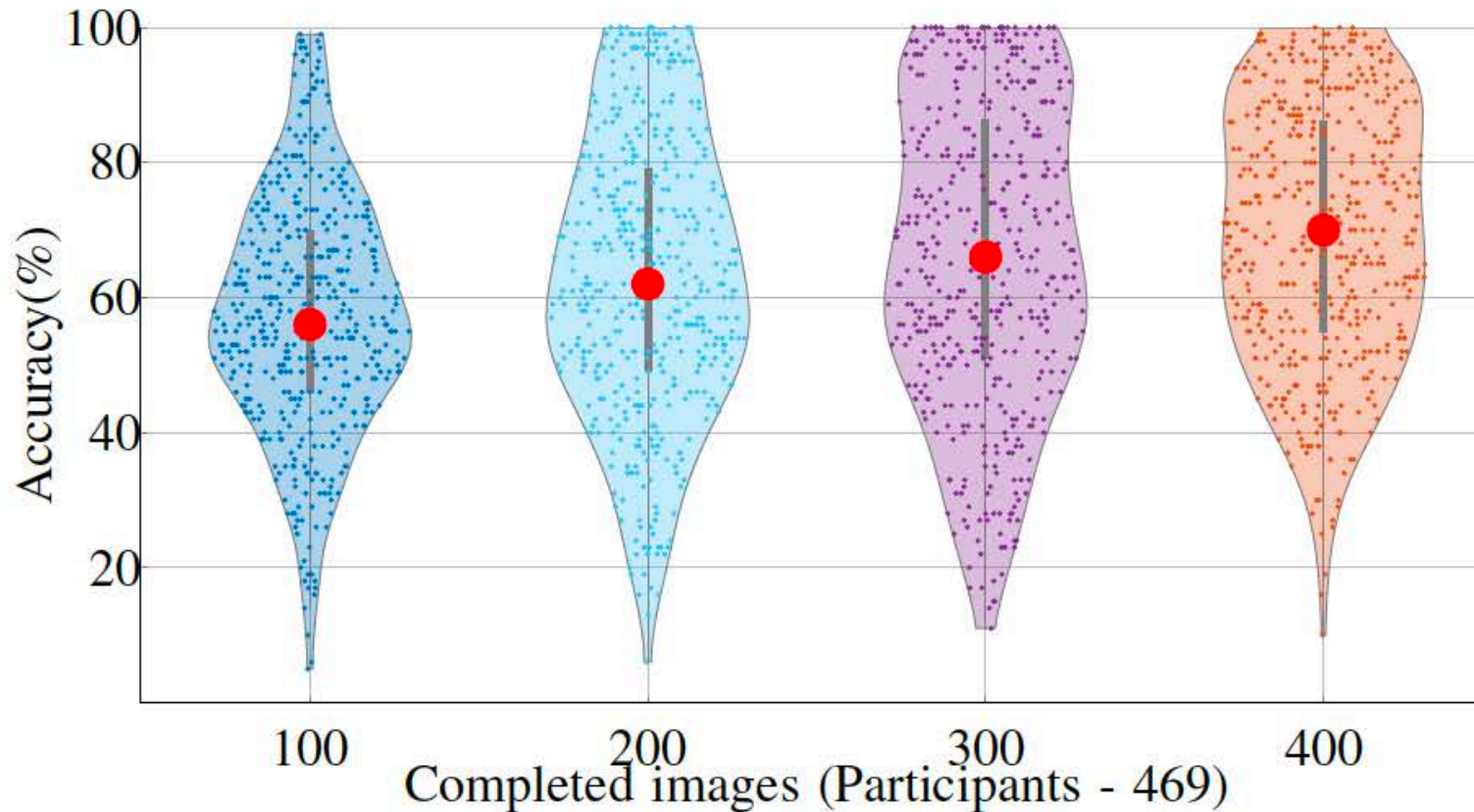


Line of work	D-MAD		S-MAD	
	Number of participants	Average Accuracy	Number of participants	Average Accuracy
Border Guard	30	64.66	26	55.17
Case handler- Passport, visas, ID, etc	150	63.45	137	56.65
Document examiner- 1st line	38	60.79	30	57.63
Document examiner- 2st line	40	68.64	34	62.56
Document examiner- 3rd line	30	65.74	25	61.51
Face comparison expert (Manual examination)	44	72.56	39	64.63
ID Expert	53	63.09	50	57.21
Other	84	64.66	69	55.17
Student	103	56.91	-	-
Total participants	572		410	
Experts	469		410	

[GOD2022] S. Godage, F. Løvåsdal, S. Venkatesh, K. Raja, R. Raghavendra, C. Busch: “Analyzing Human Observer Ability in Morphing Attack Detection - Where Do We Stand?”, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.12426>

Human Experts in MAD

Does exposure to morphed images help?



(a) D-MAD Accuracy

[GOD2022] S. Godage, F. Løvåsdal, S. Venkatesh, K. Raja, R. Raghavendra, C. Busch: “Analyzing Human Observer Ability in Morphing Attack Detection - Where Do We Stand?”, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.12426>

Further Research on MAD

With the iMARS project consortium

- image Manipulations Attack Resolving Solutions (iMARS)
- Start date: 1 September 2020
- End date: 31 August 2024
- H2020-SU-SEC-2019
- Grant agreement ID: 883356
- Topic:
 - ▶ SU-BES02-2018-2019-2020 -
Technologies to enhance border and external security
- Overall budget: € 6 988 521,25
- Website: <https://imars-project.eu/>



Conclusion

We are facing a situation, where

- Passports with morphs are already in **circulation**
 - ▶ 1000+ reported cases
 - ▶ Switch to live enrolment is a good decision, but does not solve the problem - at least for the upcoming 10 years
- Passports with morphed face images will have a **major impact** on border security
 - ▶ introduction of EU's entry/exit system
- In combination with **passport brokers** a dramatic problem
 - ▶ the darknet offers numerous opportunities ...

- Summary: **MAD** is the **hardest challenge** that I have seen in my 25 research years on biometrics

More information

The MAD website

<https://www.christoph-busch.de/projects-mad.html>

The MAD survey papers

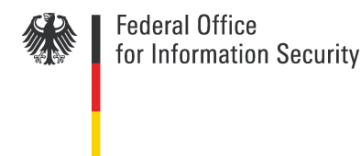
- U. Scherhag, C. Rathgeb, J. Merkle, R. Breithaupt, C. Busch: "Face Recognition Systems under Morphing Attacks: A Survey", in IEEE Access, (2019)
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8642312>
- S. Venkatesh, R. Raghavendra, K. Raja, C. Busch: "Face Morphing Attack Generation & Detection: A Comprehensive Survey", in IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society (TTS), (2021)
<https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9380153>



Thanks

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- NGBS-Project funded by ATHENE
- SWAN-Project funded by RCN
- FACETRUST-Project funded by BSI
- SOTAMD-Project funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Borders and Visa
- iMARS-Project has received funding from the European Union's H2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 883356



- ▶ The content of this presentation represents the views of the author only and is his sole responsibility.
The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

Thanks

I would like to thank my colleagues working on this topic:

- In the NBL - HDA research group:
 - ▶ Kiran Raja, Raghu Ramachandra, Loic Bergeron, Sankini Godage, Guoqiang Li, Jag Mohan Singh, Sushma Venkatesh, Haoyu Zhang
 - ▶ Ulrich Scherhag, Christian Rathgeb, Daniel Fischer, Siri Lorenz, Robert Nichols, Sergey Isadskiy, Marta Gomez-Barrero, Juan Tapia, Mathias Ibsen
- In the FACETRUST-Project:
 - ▶ Ralph Breithaupt, Johannes Merkle
- In the SOTAMD-Project and iMARS-Project:
 - ▶ Dinusha Frings, Fons Knopjes, Uwe Seidel, Frøy Løvåsdal
 - ▶ Davide Maltoni, Matteo Ferrara, Analisa Franco
 - ▶ Raymond Veldhuis, Luuk Spreeuwiers,
- In the NIST-FRVT-MORPH-Project:
 - ▶ Mei Ngan, Patrick Grother, Kayee Hanaoka, Jason Kuo

Contact

Research opportunities

- Darmstadt (Germany) <https://dasec.h-da.de/>
- Gjøvik (Norway) <https://www.ntnu.edu/nbl>
- **Internships** possibility for Msc and PhD students with **travel grant**
- Collaboration with governmental and industrial partners



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