



## **Automated Facial Age Estimation**

#### Mei Ngan + Patrick Grother

Information Technology Laboratory National Institute of Standards and Technology (US), United States Department of Commerce

> NTIA Thursday, November 6, 2014





## What is automated facial age estimation NST

#### How old are these people?



Estimated Age: 46 True Age: ??



Estimated Age: 26 True Age: 32



Estimated Age: 16 True Age: 32

#### Age Estimation Accuracy & Error over Large Homogeneous Population of 6M



For the most accurate algorithm, 67% of estimates are accurate within 5 years with a Mean Absolute Error (MAE) of 4.3 years.

NE

## Age Estimation Accuracy & Error by Age Group NST

Ē

----- B31D ---- E30D --- E31D --- E32D --- F30D ---- K10D --- P30D ---- Q10D



Age Group	Num Images	B30D	B31D	E30D	E31D	E32D	F30D	K10D	P30D	Q10D
0–17	1605807	2.6	3	5.3	5.4	5.3	18.6	21	6.1	10.9
18–55	3781607	4.9	4.5	5.5	5.5	4.6	5.6	6.6	7.6	7
56–100	785287	6.2	5.8	13.9	14	9	14.7	14	16.7	10.9

Mean Absolute Error (years)

## Age Estimation Accuracy & Error by Gender



#### Mean Absolute Error (years)

#### **Results:**

All algorithms estimate age more accurately on males than females.

NS



## Face Recognition Accuracy By Age Group

## Identification miss rates by age group NGT

- » Older ← [56,120]
- » Parents [31,55]
- » Young ← [20,30]
- » Teen ←[14,19]
- » Pre ← [9,13]
- » Kid ← [4,8]
- » Baby ← [0,3]

Visa images: Enrolled size, N = 19972

Mated searches = 19972 Non-mated searches = 203082



7

One-to-many "miss rate" FNIR when threshold set to produce a false positive in only 1 in 100 nonmate searches (FPIR = 0.01)

## Identification miss rates by age group, algorithm NST



## Accuracy = F(Age, Ageing)

» Baby ← [0,3]

» Kid ← [4,8]

» Pre ← [9,13]

- Mean time lapse = 1.6
  - Mean time lapse = 3.0
- Mean time lapse = 3.9
- » Teen ←[14,19]
- Mean time lapse = 2.7» Young ← [20,30] Mean time lapse = 2.0
- » Parents ← [31,55] Mean time lapse = 2.1
- » Older ← [56,120] Mean time lapse = 2.2

## Accuracy by age group :: Summary

- » Using visa photographs, younger people, especially but not limited to children, are more difficult to recognize.
- » Lifelong trend to be more easily recognized. This is a big effect, larger than other drivers in face recognition.
- » Two effects:
  - **Repeatability:** Older people more easily recognized as themselves.
  - **Distinguishability:** Older people more easy to distinguish from others.









## Face Ageing Quantification + Relevance

#### Patrick Grother + Mei Ngan

Information Access Division National Institute of Standards and Technology

> NTIA Meeting, Washington, DC Thursday, November 6, 2014



## Ageing: Permanent Appearance Change

#### Dwight D Eisenhower



**Green** indicates successful 1:1 authentication at FMR = 0.001.

**Red** indicates failure.

FACE AGEING  $\rightarrow$  DECREASED SIMILARITY. IS THERE AN ANALOGOUS EFFECT FOR OTHER MODALITIES?



Photographs on exhibit at Museum of Modern Art, NYC

ROLEars

2014

See Susan Minot's text in NY Times Magazine Sunday Oct 3 2014

#### **The Brown Sisters**

1975

Photographed every year from 1975-2014



## Ageing







Х

Y

Ζ

## Ageing







## Ageing



18





## Ageing





## **Verification over 40 years**



20

## **Reasoning about Ageing**

- The simplest conception of ageing is that: ≫
  - Accuracy =  $F(Time-of-Enrollment Time-of-Recognition) = F(\Delta T)$
- And we all ageing "steadily": >>
  - Accuracy =  $a b \Delta T$
- Inexorable change: ≫
  - Accuracy =  $F(monotone(\Delta T))$
  - Modulo cosmetics(?), botox(?), surgery(?) and ... photoshop
- But at least it's graceful: >>
  - Accuracy =  $F(slowly varying function(\Delta T, n))$
  - Absent injury, disease, abuse
- But ... complications >>
  - "Five years at 30 is not five years at 40" Unsteady ageing:
    - Accuracy =  $F(Age-at-Enrollment; \Delta T)$  or, simple Taylor expansion,
    - Accuracy = F(Age-at-Enrollment, Age-at-Recognition)
  - Person-specific ageing: *"Some age better than others"* 
    - Accuracy<sub>i</sub> = F<sub>i</sub>(Age-at-Enrollment, Age-at-Recognition) subscript i

21

*"if we're lucky, or simplistic, linear ageing"* 

"It's a one way street, and downhill at that"

![](_page_21_Picture_0.jpeg)

## **Longitudinal Analysis**

Quantifying Permanence Using Data from a Large-Population Operational System

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

Green indicates successful 1:1 authentication at FMR = 0.001.Red indicates failure.

LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS APPLIED TO ALGORITHM SCORE DATA

## Quantify ageing :: Individual recognition scores over time

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

TRAJECTORIES INDICATE HETEROGENEITY – INTERCEPTS (AND GRADIENTS) VARY WITH QUALITY OF THE ENROLLMENT IMAGE cf. DODDINGTON'S ZOO

- » Often, visually flat
- » Considerable variance within subject
- » Considerable variance between subjects
- » Irregular sampling
- » Imbalanced sampling
- » Mixed effects models
  - Shared population part
  - Individual part

NIS

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

Time since enrollment

Subject to assumptions:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{ij} &\sim N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon}^2) \\ \begin{bmatrix} \psi_{0i} \\ \psi_{1i} \end{bmatrix} &\sim N\left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_0^2 & \sigma_{01}^2 \\ \sigma_{10}^2 & \sigma_1^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Model for the j-th score from the i-th eye

$$HD_{ij} = \pi_{0i} + \pi_{1i}T_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij}$$

Intercept is sum of population average term, the *fixed effect*, and an eye-specific *random effect* 

 $\pi_{0i} = \gamma_{00} + \psi_{0i}$ 

Slope is sum of population average term, the *fixed effect*, and an eye-specific *random effect* 

$$\pi_{1i} = \gamma_{10} + \psi_{1i}$$

Permanence stated by the population wide rate at which scores are decreasing.

MIXED EFFECTS MODEL RESPECT IDENTITY INFORMATION. SIMPLE LINEAR REGRESSION, IN YELLOW, DOES NOT AND HAS OTHER PROBLEMS

## Conclusions

- » Brown sisters: existence proof that 1:1 face authentication is possible over thirty years
  - But scores become weaker.
  - Successful 1:N identification demands stronger scores
- » No good long term face ageing studies. e-Passports and digital photography will change that... eventually.
  - And suitable longitudinal analysis methods are published (NIST, MSU)
- » But, there's a "so what" for some use cases:
  - Algorithms improve on a timescale shorter than ageing
  - Identity credentials are re-issued on a timescale shorter than ageing
    - But possibility to recycle old photos
  - Law enforcement + counter terrorism functions have no such luxury

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### FR in Video :: Scope

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

# FIVFace In Video Evaluation (FIVE)

#### Goals

- » Comparative accuracy of algorithms
- » Absolute accuracy
- » Comparative computational cost
- » Iterative development with tech. providers
- » Threshold calibration
- » How to analyze + metrics → ISO/IEC 30137-2
- » Failure analysis → ISO/IEC 30137-1

#### Out-of-scope

- » Re-identification
- » Anomaly detection
- » Detection of un-coop, evasion
- » Other modalities + non-human

NL

## S2S – V2S – S2V – V2V :: Watchlist Surveillance

![](_page_28_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **Challenges for FR**

» Pose

- Compound rotation of head to optical axis
- » Resolution
  - Range to subject
  - Legacy camera
  - Adverse compression for storage or transmission
  - Motion blur

![](_page_28_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_15.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Picture_17.jpeg)

NIST

## Off angle recognition: The problem for video

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

ISO standard tolerance for pristine imagery

![](_page_29_Picture_3.jpeg)

NIST

## S2S - V2S - S2V - V2V

Search = Mugshot

![](_page_30_Picture_2.jpeg)

Example applications:

- 1. Media search
- 2. Asylum reidentification

![](_page_30_Picture_6.jpeg)

Patrick Grother, National Institute of Standards & Technology, USA

NIST

## S2S - V2S - S2V - V2V

![](_page_31_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Picture_2.jpeg)

#### Example applications:

- 1. Identity clustering
- 2. Re-identification

#### Search = Video corpus

#### Enrolled = Video corpus

![](_page_31_Picture_8.jpeg)

David Cameron appears on David Letterman

![](_page_32_Picture_0.jpeg)

## Thanks

## patrick.grother@nist.gov

## Time variation in three modalities

![](_page_33_Picture_1.jpeg)

34

Iris		Fingerprint	Face			
»	<ul> <li>Healthy</li> <li>Blink occlusion</li> <li>Gaze direction</li> <li>Dilation varies with mood, consumption, ambient light</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Healthy</li> <li>Facial expression</li> <li>Mouth movement</li> <li>Head motion, head orientation</li> <li>Facial bair</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Healthy</li> <li>Facial expression</li> <li>Mouth movement</li> <li>Head motion, head orientation</li> <li>Facial bair</li> </ul>			
<b>»</b>	Cosmetic <ul> <li>Contact lenses</li> <li>Glasses</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Cosmetic</li> <li>• Moisturizers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cosmetic</li> <li>Makeup</li> </ul>			
>>>	Ageing <ul> <li>Pupil constriction</li> <li>Palpebral aperture</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Ageing</li> <li>Arthritic fingers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Ageing</li> <li>• Soft tissue folds</li> <li>• Stoop – pitch forward</li> </ul>			
>>>	Disease					