



Face Recognition

A tutorial

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Face recognition problem

- Given a still image or video of a scene, identify or verify one or more persons in this scene using a stored database of facial images

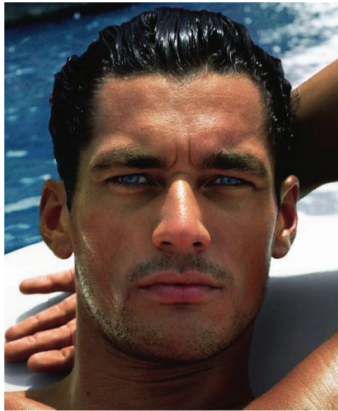


Who is she?



Face recognition/identification

Who is this person?

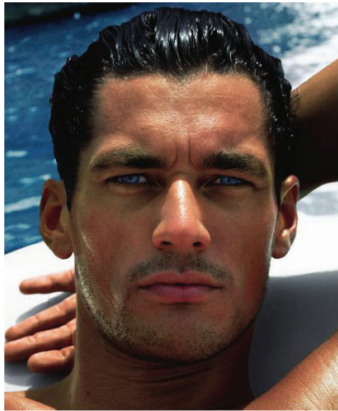


He is David.

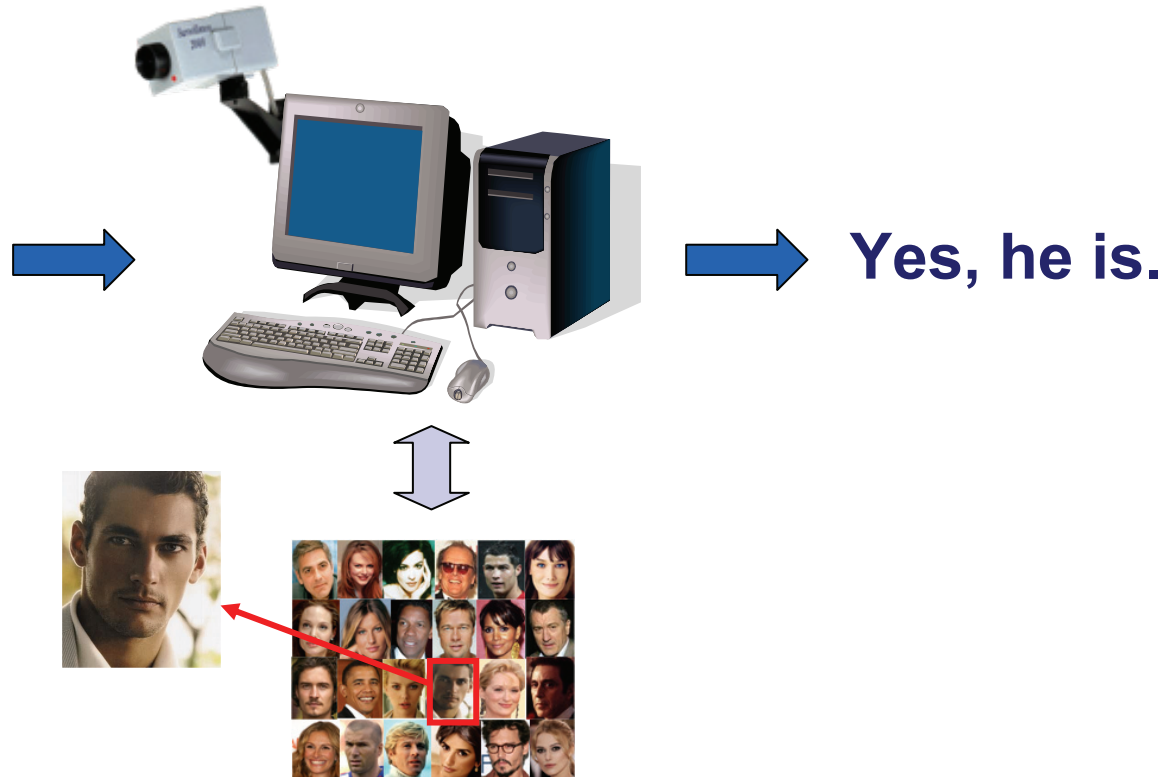


Face authentication/verification

Is he who he claims to be?



I am David.



Applications

- Civil applications and law enforcement
 - National ID, passport, driver's license, border control
 - Surveillance of public places (airports, metro stations, etc)
 - Forensic applications
- Security applications for electronic transactions and access control
 - Physical access
 - Secure access to networks and infrastructures
 - e-health, e-commerce, e-banking (and now mobile...)
- Ambient Intelligence
 - Smart homes
 - Natural human-machine interaction
- Wearable systems
 - Memory aids and context-aware systems
- Entertainment
 - Interactive movies, computer games
- Search
 - Picasa 3.5 face recognition application for finding and managing photos

Face recognition in humans

- The human visual system starts with a preference for face-like patterns
- The human visual system devotes special neural mechanisms for face perception
- Facial identity and expression might be processed separately
- Facial features are processed holistically
 - Among facial features eyebrows are most important for recognition!
- Humans can recognize faces in very low dimensional images
 - Tolerance to image degradation increases with familiarity
- Color and texture are as important as shape
- Illumination changes influence generalization
- View-generalization is mediated by temporal association

Challenges: Intrapersonal variations

- If people can do it so easily, why can't computers?
- Intrapersonal (intra-class) variations are variations of the appearance of the same face caused by
 - Illumination variations
 - Pose variations
 - Facial expressions
 - Use of cosmetics and accessories, hairstyle changes
 - Temporal variations (aging, etc)



Challenges: Interclass similarity

- Interclass similarity: different persons may have very similar appearance
 - Twins
 - Relatives
 - Strangers may look alike



<http://multiples.about.com>



<http://www.nypost.com>



<http://www.tujefetevigila.com>

Challenges: Illumination variations

- Illumination variations may significantly affect the appearance of a face in 2D images
 - Recognition performance may drop more than 40% for images taken outdoors!
 - Humans have difficulties in recognizing familiar faces when light direction changes (e.g. top-lit → bottom-lit)



Yale Face Database B

Challenges: Pose variations

- Difference between two images of the same subject under different view angles is greater than differences between images of two different subjects under the same view



CMU Face In Action (FIA) Database

Challenges: Facial expressions

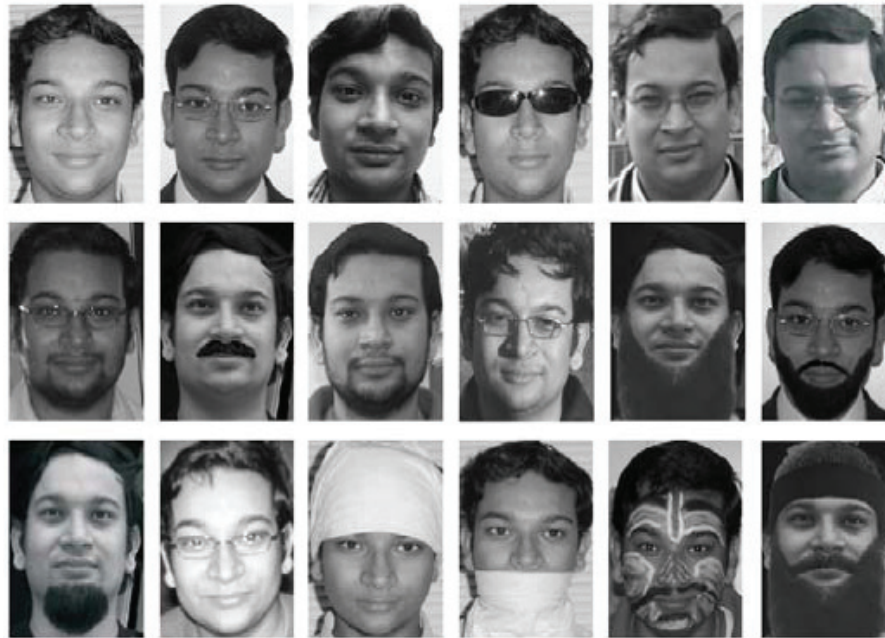
- Facial expressions caused by facial muscle movements may significantly deform the face surface



Binghamton University 3D Facial Expression database

Challenges: Disguises

- People may disguise to avoid being recognized...

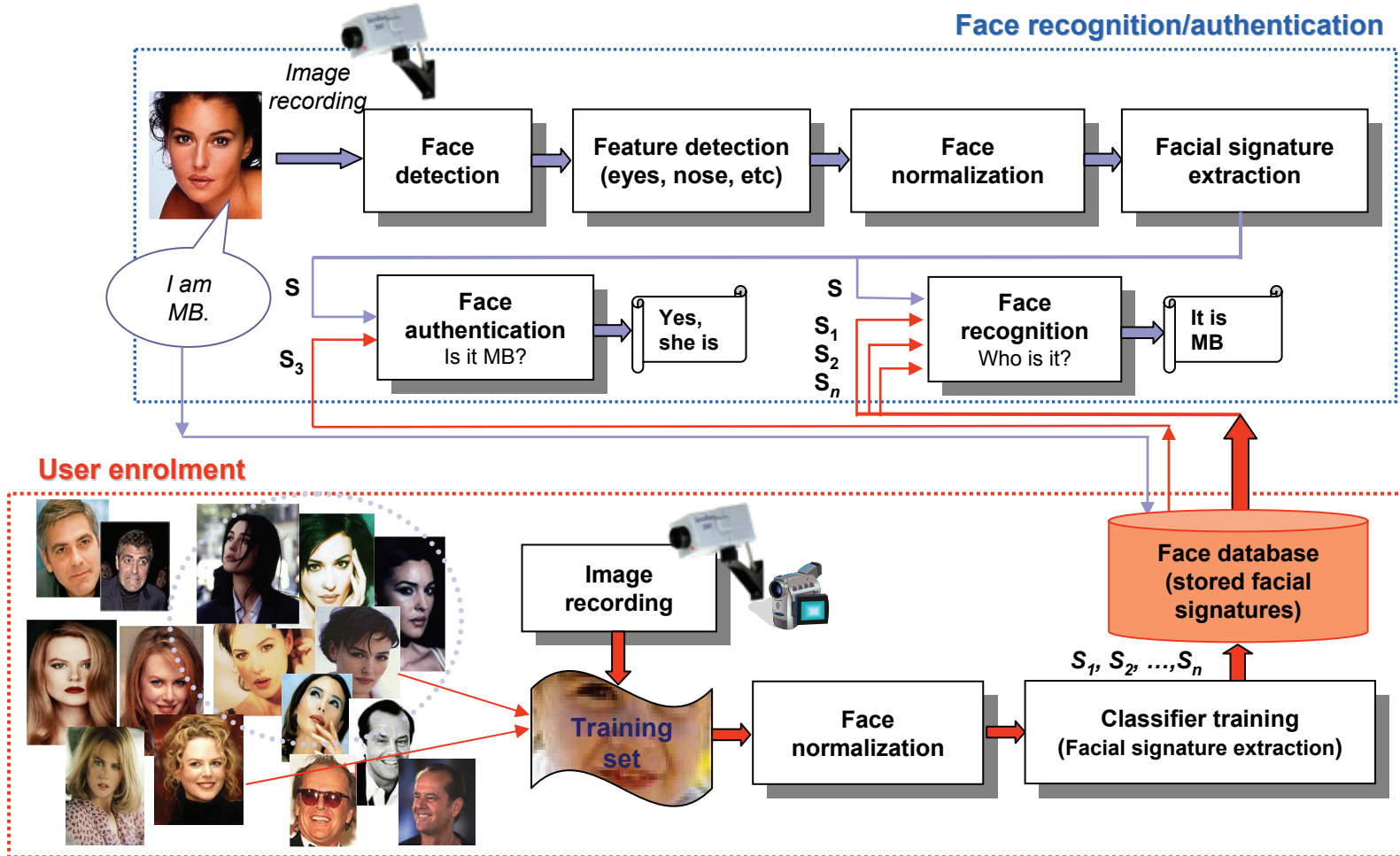


Challenges: Information redundancy

- 20x20 facial image
- $256^{400} = 2^{3200}$ possible combinations of intensity values
- Total world population as of 8 Oct. 2009
 $6,789,000,000 \approx 2^{32}$
- That's an extremely high-dimensional space...



Typical face recognition system architecture





Face detection

Face detection

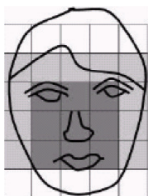
- Face detection: find all faces in an image (if any) regardless of their position, scale, in plane rotation, pose, illumination, facial expressions, occlusions
 - First step to every face recognition system
- Face localization: find the exact location of a detected face
 - Detection of salient facial features such as eyes, nose, nostrils, eyebrows, mouth, etc
- Face tracking: detect (“follow”) a face in a video sequence



Face detection techniques

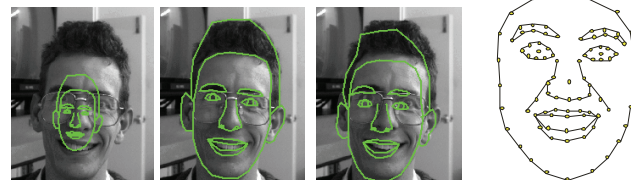
Knowledge-based

Translate knowledge about typical face to a set of rules

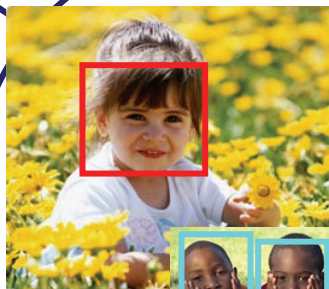


Structural matching

Statistical models of shape appearance based on a set of landmarks

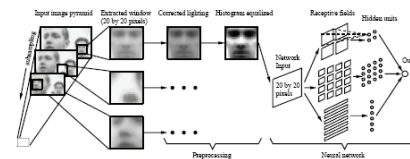


© <http://personalpages.manchester.ac.uk/staff/timothy.f.cootes/>



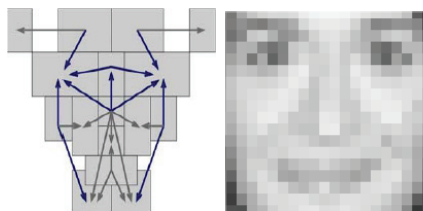
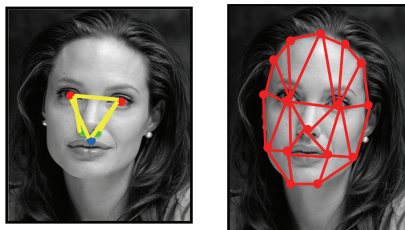
Appearance-based

Learn face characteristics from a representative set of example images using classic machine learning techniques



Feature invariant

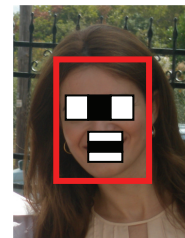
Find features of the face invariant to appearance variations (facial features, edges, shape, texture, skin color)



Template matching

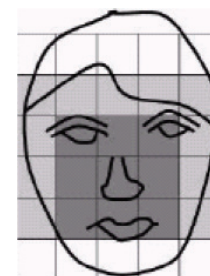
Standard patterns stored to describing the face or facial features

Eigenfaces, Neural Networks, Distribution-based, HMM, Haar features



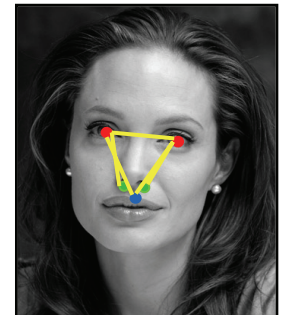
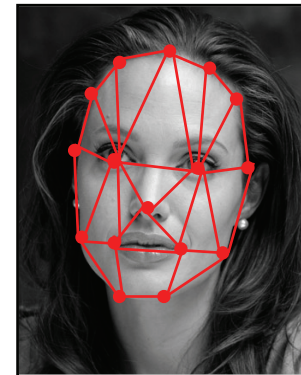
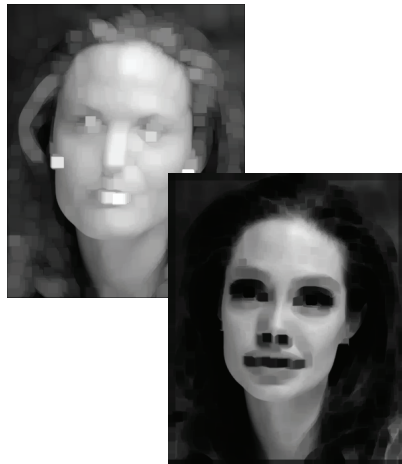
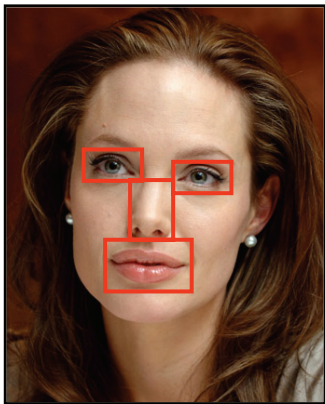
Knowledge-based face detection

- Define a set of rules to represent the face and use them for detection, e.g.
 - “Center face part has uniform intensity”
 - “Face has two eyes, a nose and a mouth”
- Hierarchical approach examining the face at different resolution levels
 - Lower level: find possible face candidates based on image intensity
 - Mid level: detect edges
 - Higher level: extract facial features (mouth, eyes). Classify the image region as face or non-face
- Not easy to translate knowledge into rules or extend rules to different poses



Feature invariant face detection

- Extraction of local facial features (eyes, eyebrows, nose, mouth) using multi-resolution or derivative filters, edge detectors, morphological operations, etc
- Statistical models, neural networks and graph matching used to describe relationships between features
 - Improved invariance under pose or illumination, problems due to occlusions, noise, complex background, etc



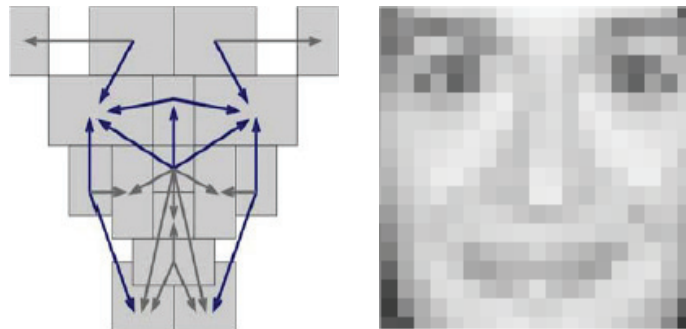
Skin color based face detection

- Each pixel labeled as skin or non-skin
- Connected component analysis and grouping to merge neighbor skin areas
- A candidate region is classified as face if it satisfies some criteria
 - Easy to implement, insensitive to pose and facial expressions, but sensitive to illumination variations and other body-parts or skin-color like regions



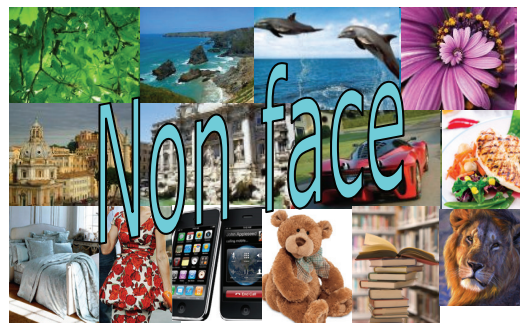
Template based face detection

- Several standard templates stored to describe the face as a whole or the facial features separately
 - Predefined templates based on edges, silhouettes
 - Deformable templates based on facial contours (e.g. Snakes)
- Face detection based on correlation with these templates
- Simple to implement but cannot deal with pose variations



Appearance based face detection

- Uses statistical analysis and machine learning techniques to learn the “characteristics” of a face from a large set of images
 - PCA, LDA
 - Support Vector Machines
 - Neural Networks
 - Hidden Markov Models
 - Adaboost
- Most successful approach, fast and robust
 - Detection rates 80-90% at a false positive rate of 10%
- Needs to search over scale and space and requires large set of training examples



Eigenfaces for detection

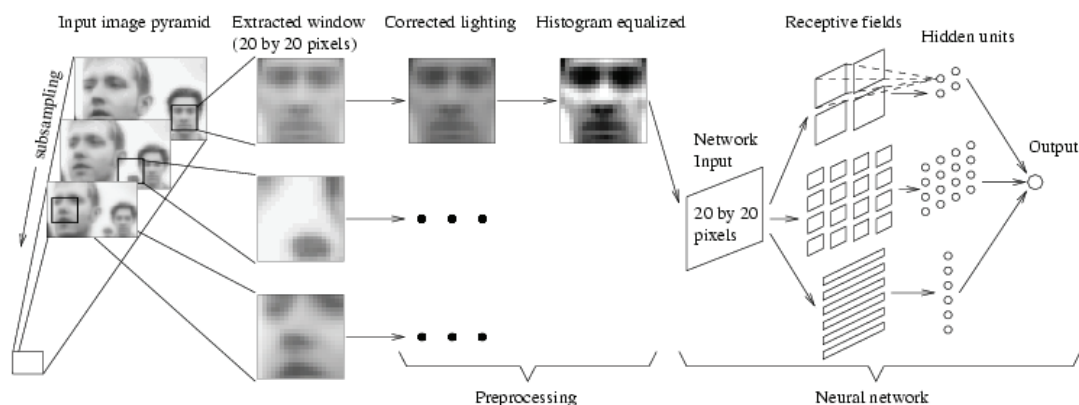
- A low-dimensional subspace (face space) is built using a large set of training images and Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- The distance of an image sub-window from the face space (DFFS) determines its likelihood to represent a face
- Sensitive to pose variations



© W Fashion Magazine August 2002

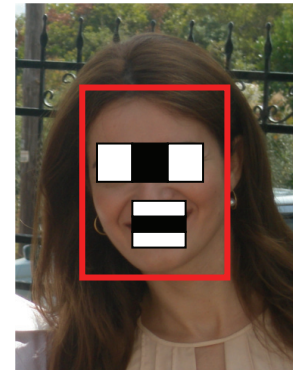
Neural networks

- Two-class pattern recognition problem
 - An image window is classified as face or non-face
 - Requires careful design of network and tuning of parameters and extensive training

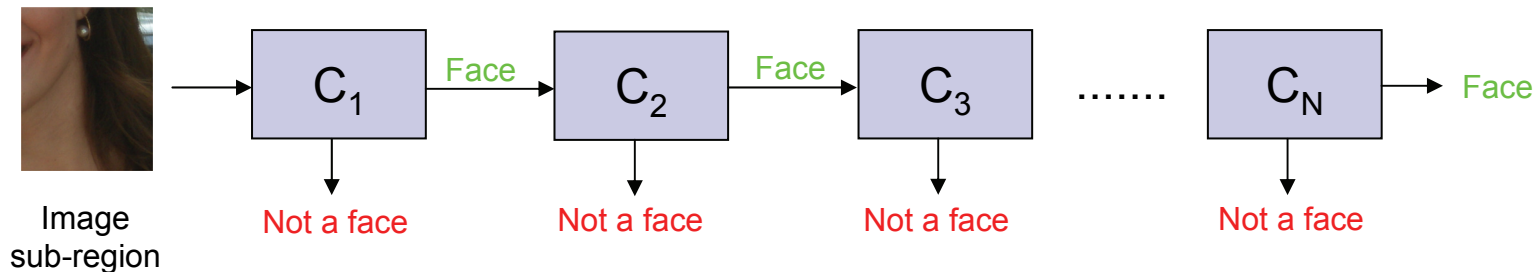


Haar features

- Haar features consist of two or more rectangles and encode intensity differences between neighboring areas



- A cascade of boosted classifiers working with Haar features used to classify image regions as face or non-face
 - Classifiers at earlier stages use fewer Haar features
 - Feature selection is based on the Adaboost algorithm → features sorted in order of importance
 - Fast and robust, but time-consuming training (days...)

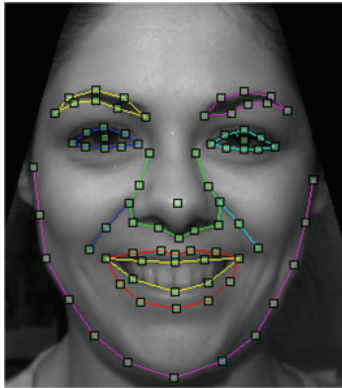


Facial feature detection

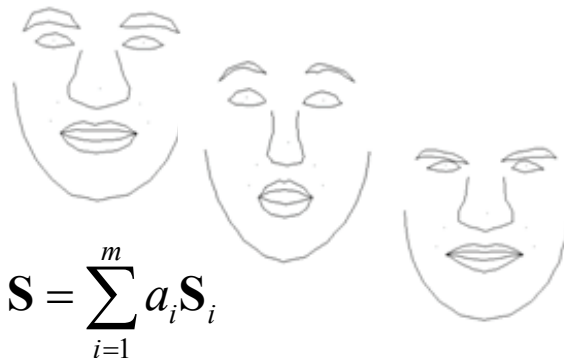
- Edge based techniques
- Feature templates for eyes, mouth, nose
 - Problematic when features are occluded or obscured
- Eigenfeatures
 - Eigeneyes, eigenmouth, etc
- Gabor wavelets, multidimensional erosion-dilation
- Structural matching using ASM, AAM, etc
 - More robust under shape or image intensity variation

Active Shape Model (ASM)

- Statistical model representing the shape of faces
 - Point distribution model with N points
 - Local appearance model for each point based on image gradient
 - Point and local appearance distributions learned by applying PCA to a set of annotated images
 - The face can be expressed as the sum of a mean shape and a linear combination of basis shapes
- Iterative fitting to find the points that best match the local appearance distributions under constraints imposed by shape



Face model with 81 points



Modes of shape variation



Fitting results

Active Appearance Model (AAM)

- Single statistical model combining shape and texture
 - Shape model + texture model
 - Correlations between shape and texture are learned to generate the combined appearance model
- Iterative fitting to find model parameters that minimize the difference between the probe image and a synthesized model example (analysis by synthesis)



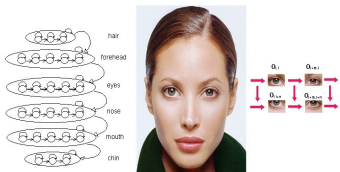


2D face recognition techniques

2D face recognition techniques

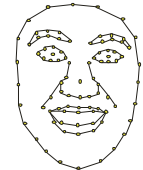
Appearance-based (Holistic)

Eigenfaces, Fisherfaces, ICA, Kernel PCA, Local Feature Analysis (LFA), Hidden Markov Models (HMM)



©National Geographic

Model-based

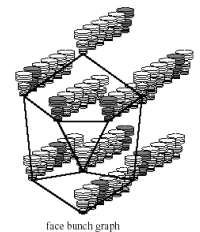
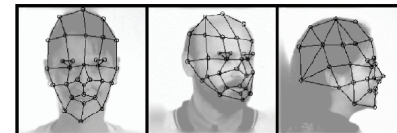


Active Appearance Models
3D morphable models

$$R_p \left(\begin{matrix} \alpha_1 \cdot \text{Model 1} + \alpha_2 \cdot \text{Model 2} + \alpha_3 \cdot \text{Model 3} + \dots \\ \beta_1 \cdot \text{Model 1} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{Model 2} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{Model 3} + \dots \end{matrix} \right) = I_{model} \leftrightarrow I_{input}$$

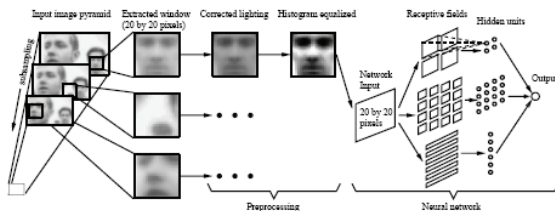
Feature matching

Geometry methods
Elastic Graph Matching



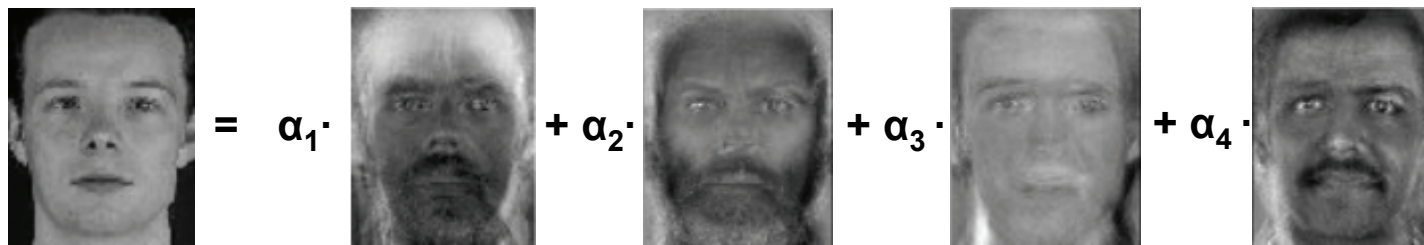
face bunch graph

Neural networks



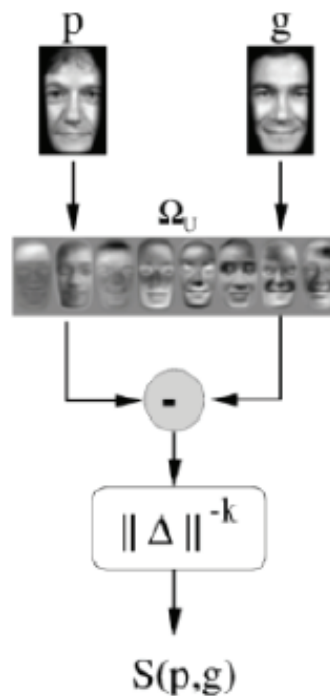
Eigenfaces

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) applied on a set of images to extract a lower dimension subspace that best describes the variance of underlying data
 - Dimensionality reduction!
 - The principal components are called eigenfaces due to their face-like appearance
 - A face can be modeled as a linear combination of a small subset of the eigenfaces
 - Face recognition is based on comparing the coefficients of this linear representation
- Easy to implement, but sensitive to pose, needs accurate alignment of probe and gallery

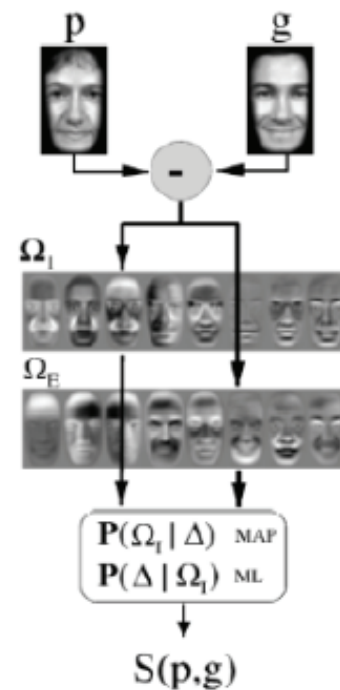


Probabilistic eigenfaces

- A multi-class problem converted into a two-class problem
 - Intrapersonal and extrapersonal classes based on image differences between images of the same person and different persons respectively
 - Use of a probabilistic measure of similarity instead of Euclidean distances
- More robust to illumination variations and facial expressions



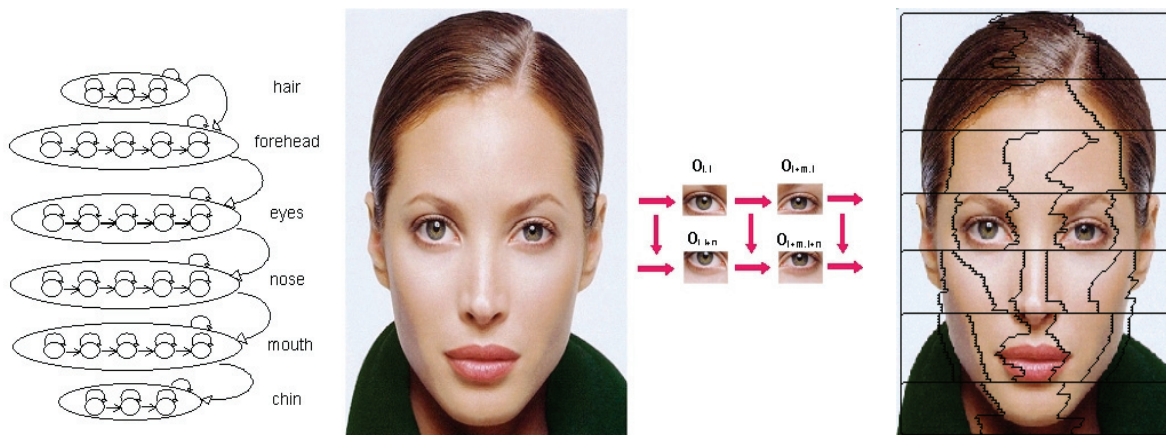
Classic eigenfaces



Probabilistic eigenfaces

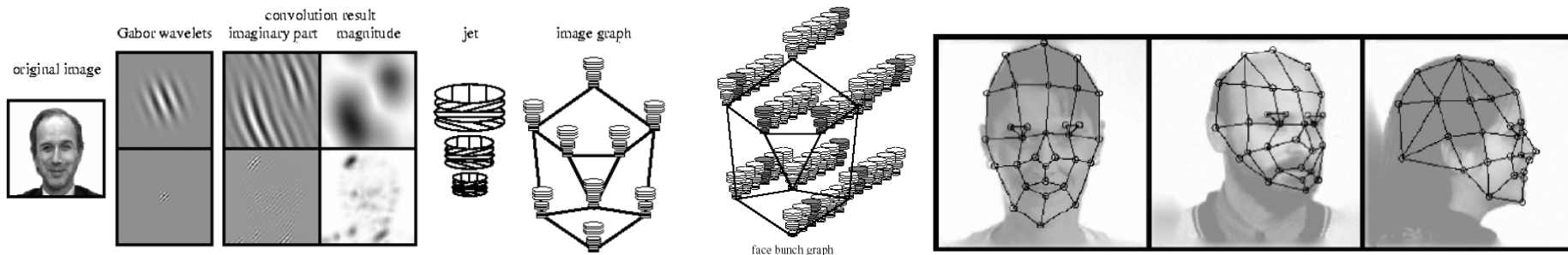
Embedded Hidden Markov Models

- EHMMs consist of a set of super states along with a set of embedded states
 - Super states model the face from top to bottom
 - Embedded states model the face from left to right
- Model parameters estimated based on observations extracted from training images – one model is trained for each face



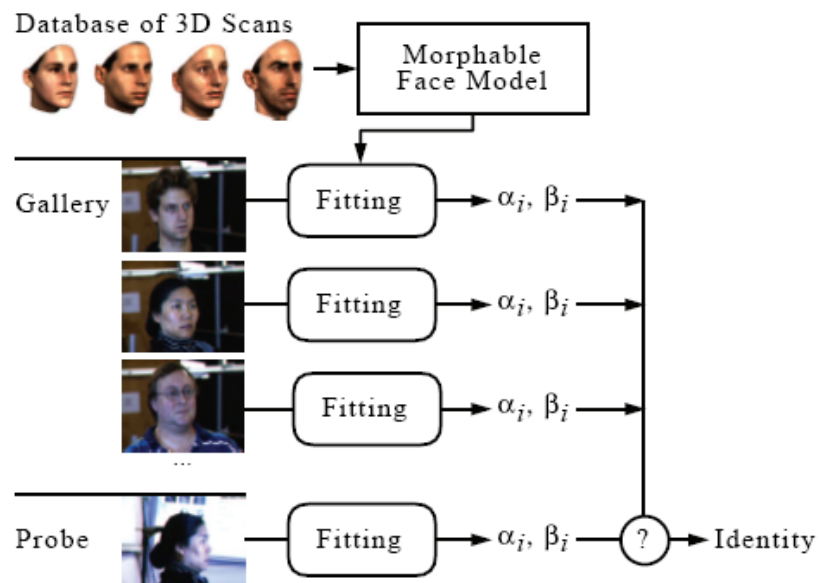
Elastic Graph Matching

- The face is represented as a set of local feature vectors (jets) placed over the nodes of a labeled 2D graph (image graph)
 - Features are Gabor wavelet coefficients or morphological operators computed over different scales and orientations
 - Edges are labeled with distance information
- Face classification is based on elastically deforming the grid of a probe image to fit the grid of a gallery image
 - Cost function measuring jet similarity and grid distortion
- Elastic Bunch graph matching (EBGM)
 - Uses a set of jets for every node that correspond to several appearance variations
 - Extract image graph of probe image by fitting the EBGM and then match against gallery graphs



3D morphable model

- Statistical model built from dense 3D face scans with texture
 - Two distinct models for texture and 3D shape built by applying PCA
- Model fitting based on an analysis-by-synthesis approach
 - Estimate model parameters and face position, orientation and illumination so that the image produced by model rendering is as close as possible to the input image
- Face matching based on Mahalanobis distances of shape and texture parameters



$$R_{\rho} \left(\begin{array}{c} \alpha_1 * \text{[3D Model 1]} + \alpha_2 * \text{[3D Model 2]} + \alpha_3 * \text{[3D Model 3]} + \dots \\ \beta_1 * \text{[3D Model 1]} + \beta_2 * \text{[3D Model 2]} + \beta_3 * \text{[3D Model 3]} + \dots \end{array} \right) = I_{model} \leftrightarrow I_{input}$$

Face Recognition Vendor Test 2002



- FRVT2002: Independent evaluation of commercial 2D face recognition systems
 - Performance in large datasets (121589 images, 37437 subjects)
 - Performance under pose and illumination variations, effect of time
- Results
 - 10% FRR for 1% FAR, 18% FRR for 0.1% FAR
 - 73% RR for 37437 subjects, 83% for 1600 subjects, 85% for 800 subjects
 - FR performance decreases approximately linearly with elapsed time between database and new images (5% per year)

 - Recognition rate drops more than 40% for images taken outdoors!
 - Recognition rate drops to 20% for 45° rotations (FAR 1%)
 - Three-dimensional morphable models substantially improve the ability to recognize non-frontal faces (80%)
 - Recognition from video sequences not better than from still images

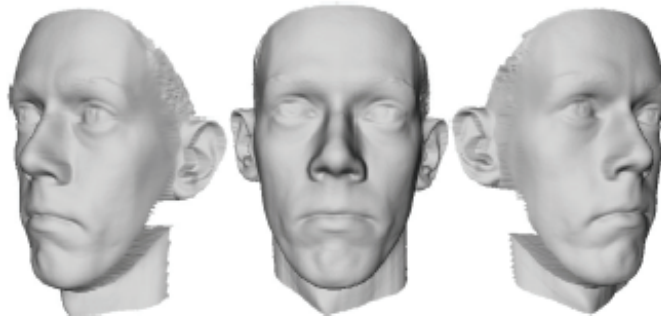
 - Males are easier to recognize than females (6-9%)
 - Younger people are harder to recognize than older people
- Performance measurements
 - False Acceptance Rate (FAR): Percentage of instances that the system accepts a claimed identity when it shouldn't
 - False Rejection Rate (FRR): Percentage of instances that the system rejects a claimed identity when it shouldn't
 - Recognition Rate (RR): Percentage of instances that a person is correctly recognized by the system



3D and 2D+3D face recognition techniques

Why use 3D images for face recognition?

- 3D images represent the 3D structure of the face
 - Rich source of information not captured in 2D images
 - Better at capturing surface geometry
 - Not affected by illumination variations or use of cosmetics
 - Less sensitive to appearance variations
 - Easier to handle pose variations
 - Projective nature of 2D images ...
 - Simplifies face & facial feature detection, pose estimation & pose compensation

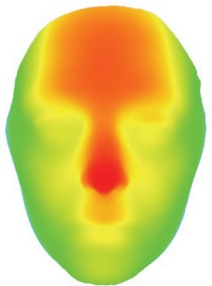


2D+3D face recognition

- If 3D is so much better, should we forget 2D?
 - No! 2D and 3D images provide complementary information about the face
 - Texture is as important as geometry
 - The ideal is a multimodal approach: use both 2D and 3D facial information in all stages of face recognition
 - Experiments have shown that the combination of 2D and 3D offers increased performance compared to 2D or 3D alone
 - Fusion of scores of 2D and 3D classifiers

3D facial data representations

- Range (depth) image
 - the z coordinates of the face points are mapped on a regular x-y grid using linear interpolation
 - 2D image where pixel values correspond to distance from camera plane
- Point cloud
 - the set of the 3D coordinates of the points of a face
- 3D mesh
- Curvature
 - each point in the face is described by its curvature (Gaussian, mean, principal)
- Surface normal
 - each point in the face is described by its normal vector



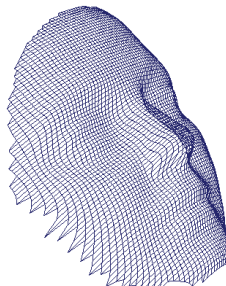
Range image



3D face surface



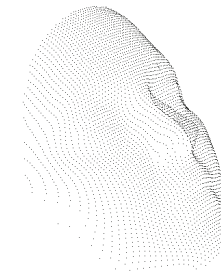
3D face surface overlaid with texture



3D mesh



3D mesh + texture



Point cloud

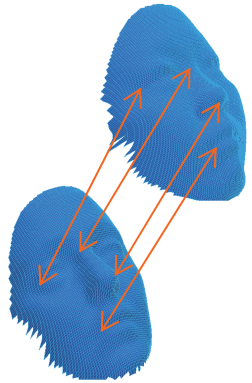


Gaussian curvature



Mean curvature

3D face recognition techniques

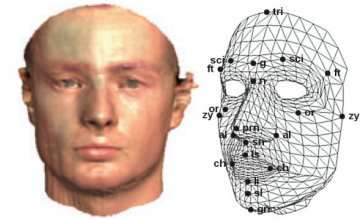
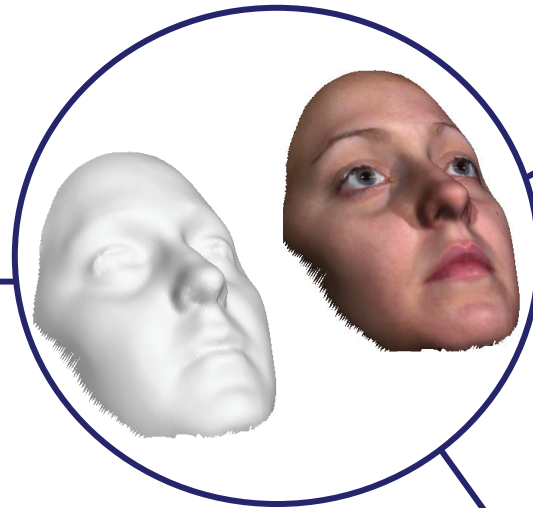


- ICP, Hausdorff distance
 - Needs good initial estimation to converge
- Point-to-point matching**

Surface-based

Curvature-based

- Point signatures, EGIs
- Sensitive to noise and data quality

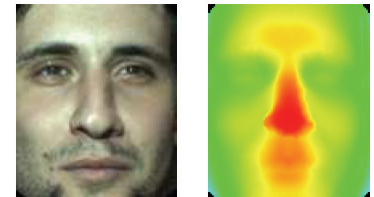


Model-based

- 3D morphable model, 3D annotated face model
- Analysis-by-synthesis
- Not real-time

Appearance-based

- Eigenfaces, Fisherfaces
- Works on range images only (2D classification...)
- Needs accurate alignment between probe and gallery



Surface-based 3D face recognition

- Based on rigidity assumption → use of classic 3D object recognition techniques
 - Use of local curvature features, which are rotation invariant (Point Signatures, EGIs)
 - Use of point-to-point matching (ICP, Hausdorff distance)
- Sensitive to image noise, heavy computation load



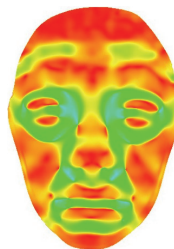
Face surface



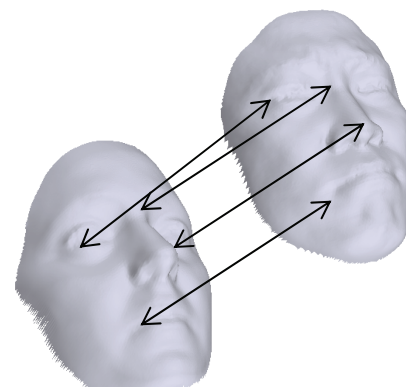
Gaussian curvature



Mean curvature

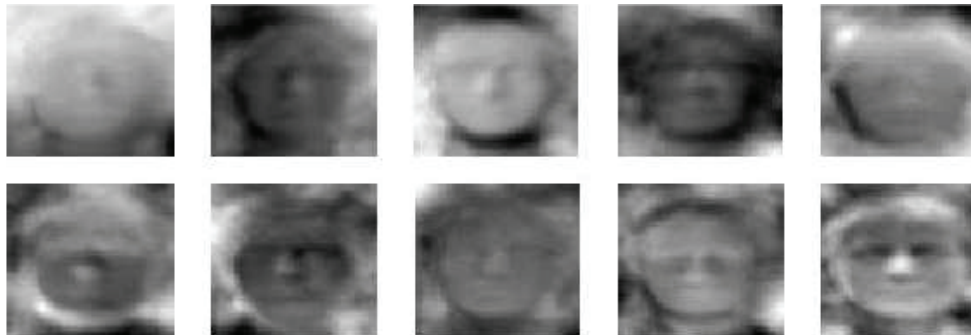


Shape Index



Appearance-based 3D face recognition

- Eigenfaces or Fisherfaces applied to range images
 - Easy to implement, fast response
 - Requires accurate alignment of probe and gallery images – may be achieved by localizing facial features such as the nose and the eyes
 - Sensitive to pose variations and facial expressions
 - First technique to be used for 2D+3D face recognition [Tsalakanidou et al. 2003]



Model-based 3D face recognition

- 3D parametric-morphable model [Blanz2007]



- Non-parametric 3D model [Kakadiaris2007]





Handling appearance variations



Handling illumination variations

- Illumination invariant face representations
- Subspace methods
- Generative image models
- Illumination estimation and image relighting

Illumination insensitive techniques

- Use of illumination insensitive representations of face images based on edges, correlation filters, gradient direction, image ratios, face symmetry
 - Quotient image
 - Symmetric shape from shading
- Illumination invariants *do not* exist for Lambertian surfaces



Sub-space techniques

- Modeling of illumination variations using linear subspaces
 - The face is considered a Lambertian surface → the set of images of a face obtained under a wide variety of lighting conditions can be approximated by a low-dimension linear subspace
- Subspace estimation
 - PCA applied to a number of images of the same subject under different illumination
 - Illumination cones
 - Spherical harmonics
- Requirement for large training sets and pixel wise alignment between probe and gallery, reliance to simplified reflectance models

Generative image models

- Separates intrinsic model parameters of the face (shape, texture) from extrinsic imaging parameters (pose, illumination, camera parameters)
 - Parameterize a new image in terms of the model
 - Model parameters estimated using an analysis-by-synthesis approach
 - Use shape and texture parameters for classification
- Needs large training database, employs time consuming non-linear fitting techniques, requires manual selection of landmarks

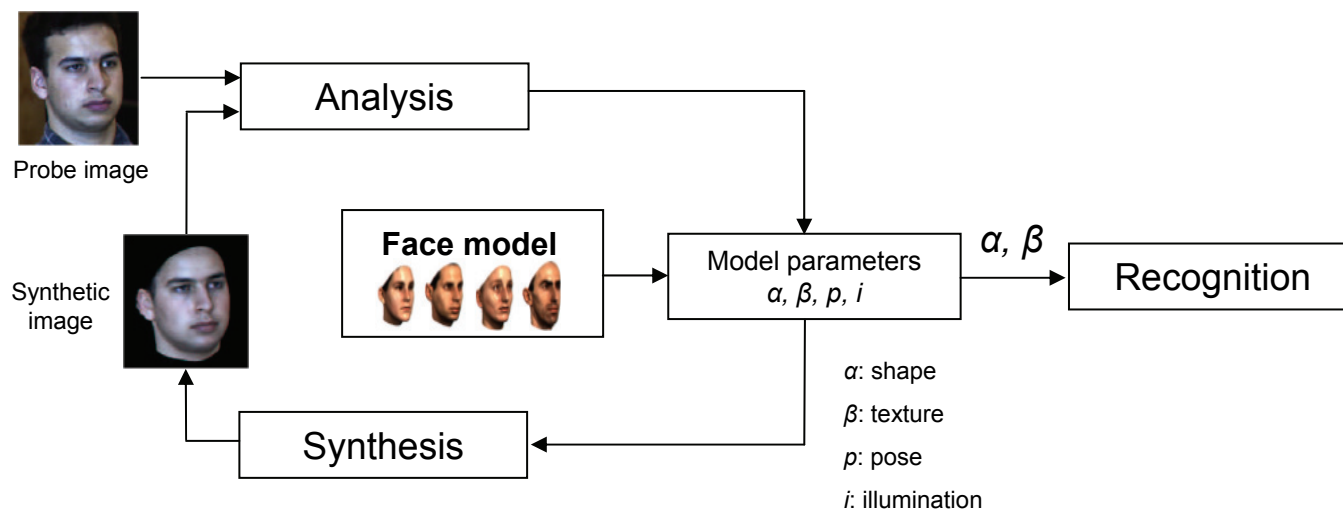


Image relighting

- Illumination estimation
 - Much easier when 3D data is available
- Synthesis of novel views resembling the illumination of gallery images
 - Normalization of probe images to diminish the effect of varying illumination conditions
 - Generation of symmetric frontally illuminated images
- Inverse of generative approach



Handling pose variations

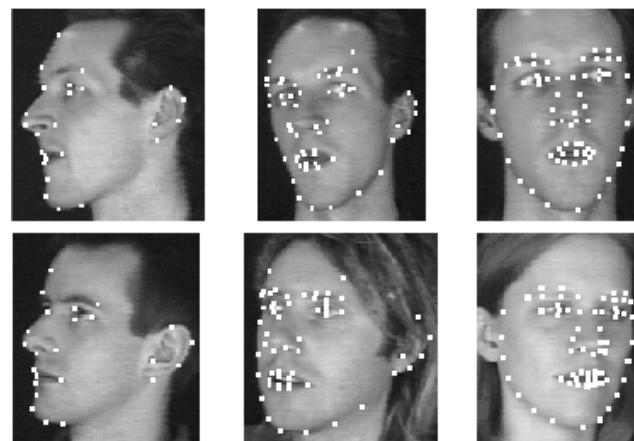
- 3D model-based approaches (generative)
 - Deformable 3D face models or AAMs
- Multi-view approaches
 - Multi-view database images for each subject
- Pose estimation and compensation
 - Creation of normalized frontal views

Model-based approaches

- Deformable 3D face models or AAMs (generative models)
 - Shape, texture, position and pose estimated by fitting the model on a 2D or 3D image
 - Automatic generation of novel views resembling the pose in the probe image – minimization of difference metric (analysis-by-synthesis approach)
 - Classification based on
 - Shape & texture model parameters
 - Similarity between generated view and probe image

Multi-view approaches

- View-based methods
 - Set of separate eigenspaces, each capturing the variations of several individuals under the same pose
 - Set of separate models, e.g. AAMs, to represent appearance under different poses
 - Require extensive enrolment
 - Illumination cones extended for pose (one cone for each pose)



Pose estimation & compensation

- Pose estimation based on extraction of salient features
 - Difficult in 2D images due to their projective nature
 - Easier when 3D data is available
- Pose compensation → generation of normalized (frontal) image views
 - Warping procedure between gallery and probe
- Face matching between normalized views

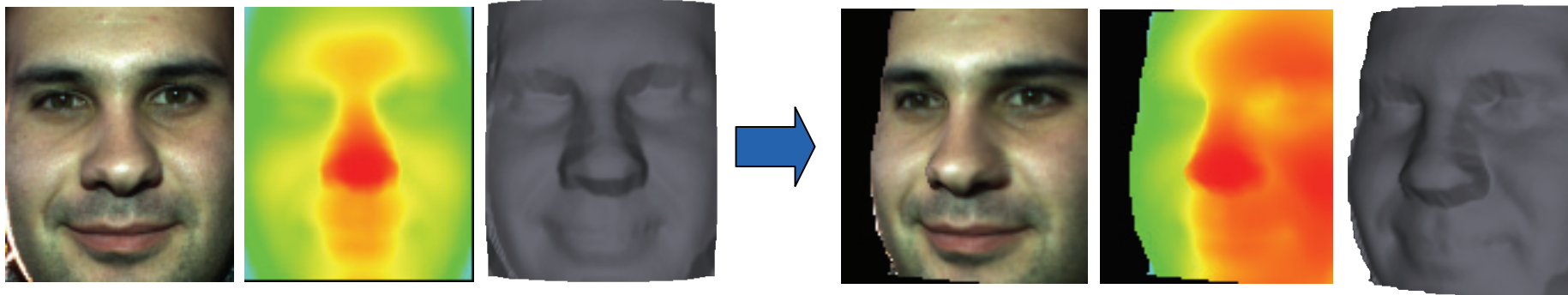


Automatic generation of synthetic views under varying pose and illumination

- Subspace techniques rely on the availability of large training sets to achieve high recognition rates → use of domes
- Solution: database enrichment with automatically generated synthetic images with arbitrary pose and illumination using a few 2D+3D frontal views
 - Avoids cumbersome enrolment process
 - Only a few images per person are needed
 - For each original image, a set of synthetic views is generated based on depth data

Synthetic images - pose

- Generation of synthetic poses
 - Creation of a 3D face mesh based on depth image
 - Rotation of 3D face mesh
 - Rendering of 3D data using z-buffer algorithm
 - generation of synthetic depth + color image

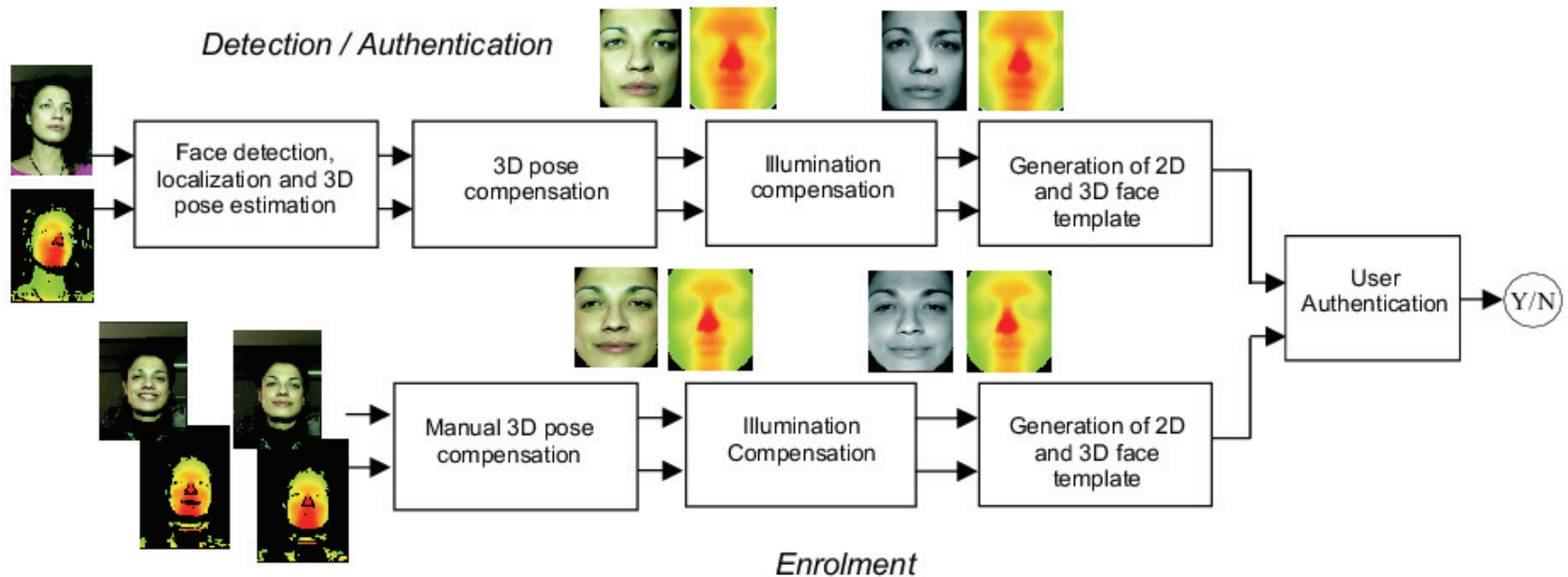


Synthetic images - illumination

- Simulation of heterogeneous shading of the face caused by a directional light
 - Estimate surface normal \mathbf{n} over each pixel using depth image
 - Define light source \mathbf{L} based on azimuth angles θ and φ
 - Create a synthetic view illuminated by \mathbf{L} : $I_s = I_o(k_a + k_d \mathbf{L} \cdot \mathbf{n})$
 - k_a, k_d : weights for ambient light and diffuse reflectance
- Training of classifier (PCA, EHMM) with a large set of synthetic views

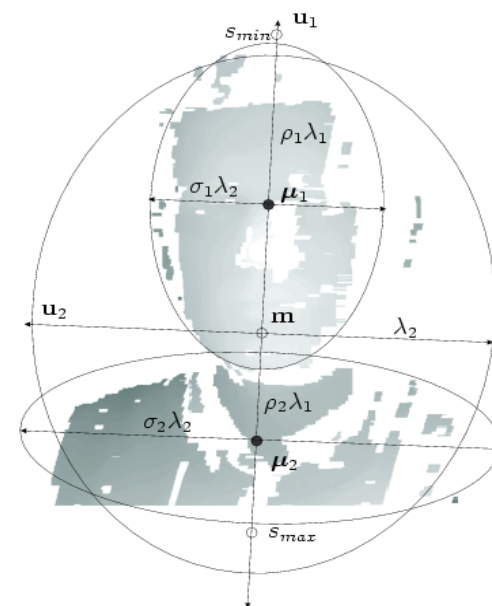


Pose & illumination compensation based on 2D+3D images



3D pose estimation

- Face detection based on 3D moments and a-priori knowledge of face geometry
- Nose tip and nose ridge localization based on principal curvatures and 3D face symmetry
- Pose estimation using 3D face symmetry
 - Accuracy: $< 2\text{mm}$ RMS (nose tip location), $< 2.5^\circ$ RMS (face orientation) up to 30°



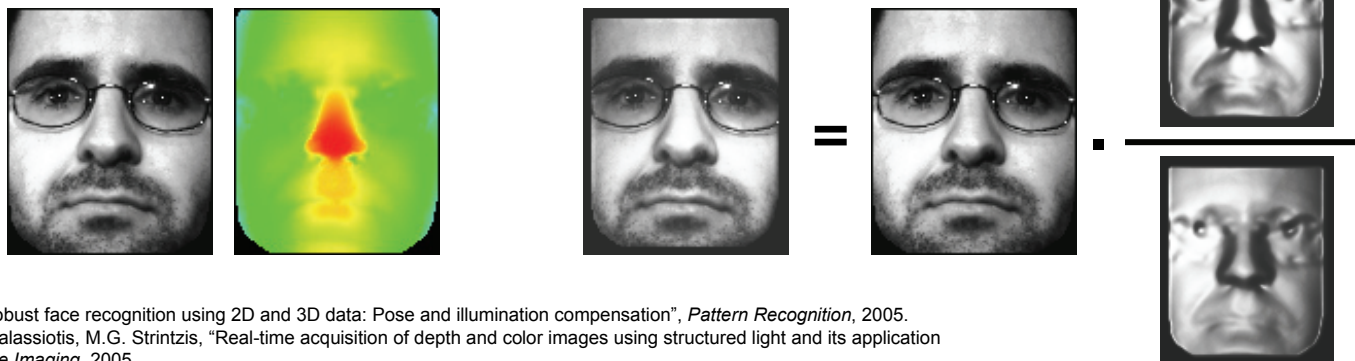
3D pose compensation

- Estimate the pose in a pair of probe images
- 3D warping to align the probe with the gallery
- Enhance image alignment using ICP
- Generate frontal views



Illumination compensation

- Estimation of the light source \mathbf{L} based on example-based regression
- Relighting with frontal illumination \mathbf{L}_0
 - $I_C(\mathbf{u}) = A(\mathbf{u}) \cdot R(I_D, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{u})$
 - I_C : pose compensated color image
 - I_D : pose compensated depth image
 - A : unknown face albedo
 - R : rendering of the surface with constant albedo
 - $\tilde{I}_C(\mathbf{u}) = A(\mathbf{u}) \cdot R(I_D, \mathbf{L}_0, \mathbf{u})$
 - \tilde{I}_C : image relit by \mathbf{L}_0
 - $\tilde{I}_C(\mathbf{u}) = I_C(\mathbf{u}) \cdot R(I_D, \mathbf{L}_0, \mathbf{u}) / R(I_D, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{u})$



Handling facial expressions

- Detecting-excluding deformable regions (e.g. mouth, cheeks)
- Expression invariant representations based on isometry assumption
- Decoupling identity from expression

Canonical forms

- Expression invariant representation based on geodesic distances
 - Geodesic distance: the length of the minimum length curve that connects two points
 - The face is an isometric surface \rightarrow geodesic distances are preserved
 - Canonical form: a new surface where Euclidean distances between its points correspond to their geodesic distances in the face surface



Face surface

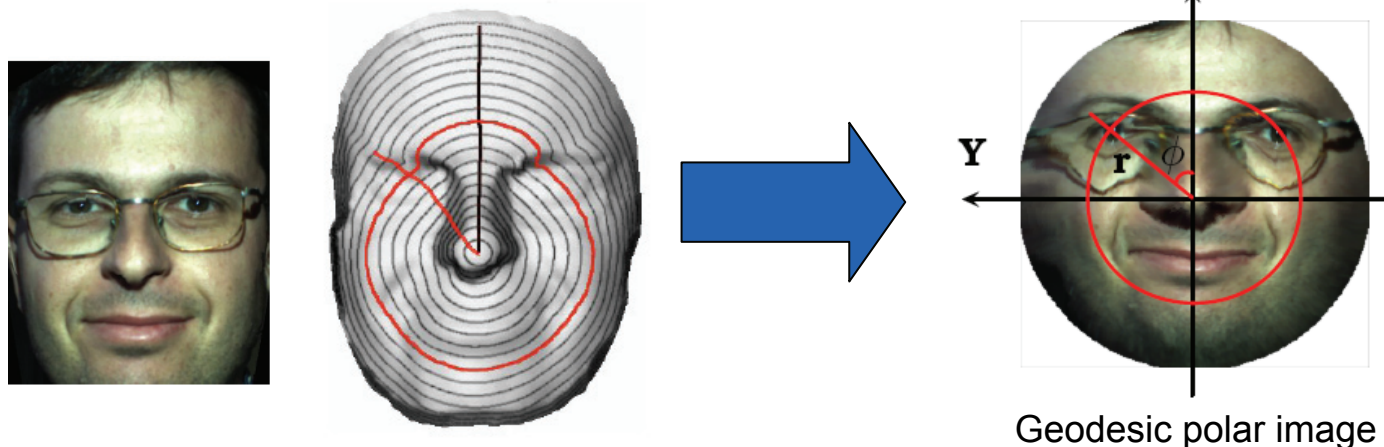


Canonical form



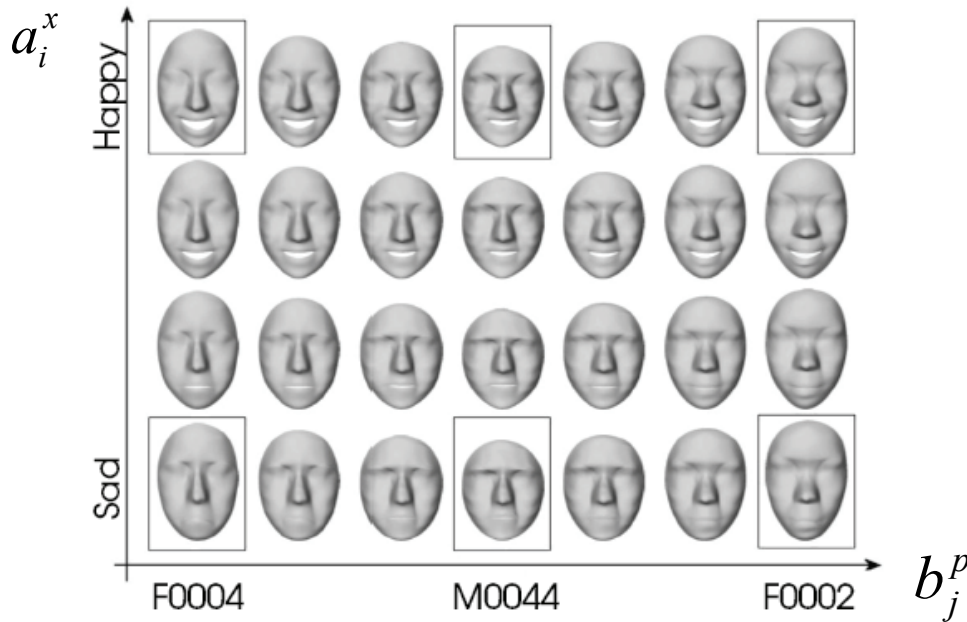
Geodesic polar images

- Expression invariant representation based on polar geodesic coordinates
 - Geodesic circle: the locus of points having the same geodesic distance from the pole (tip of nose)
 - Geodesic circles are mapped to circles on a new plane → 2D expression invariant images representing texture or Gaussian curvature
- Fast warping procedure, becomes a 2D face recognition problem
 - The isometry assumption stands for moderate expressions only...

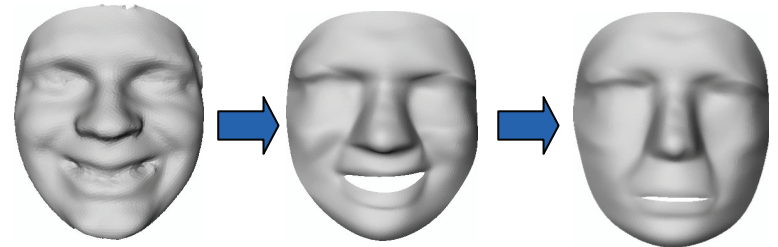


Bilinear models for 3D face recognition

- Basic idea: built a statistical model that effectively decouples identity and expression components of appearance
- Face classification is based on identity parameters



$$\mathbf{v}^{xp} = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^M \mathbf{w}_{ij} a_i^x b_j^p$$



Face Recognition Vendor Test 2006

- FRVT2002: Evaluation of commercial 2D face recognition systems
 - 10% FRR for 1% FAR, 18% FRR for 0.1% FAR
 - Outdoors illumination: Recognition rate drops more than 40% for images taken outdoors!
- FRVT2006: Evaluation of both 2D and 3D commercial face recognition systems
 - 2D: 2-5% FRR for 0.1% FAR
 - 3D: 0.5-3% FRR for 0.1% FAR
 - Uncontrolled illumination: 10-15% FRR for 0.1% FAR
 - Algorithm improvement, sensor improvement

Face Recognition Grand Challenge (FRGC)

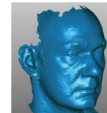
- Aim: Develop still and 3D algorithms to improve performance an order of magnitude over FRVT2002

- FRVT2002 : verification rate 80% at 0.1% FAR

- FRVT2006 : verification rate 98%

- FRGC experiments results

- 3D vs. 3D : verification rate 97%



- High resolution still vs. high resolution still : verification rate 99%



- Multi-still vs. multi-still : verification rate 99.99%



Some thoughts...

- Mature technology for biometric authentication especially if used together with other biometrics
- But still no commercial system working robustly under unconstrained conditions
 - Pose, illumination, expressions: open issues
- Unexplored ground: handling disguises and occlusions, exploiting information about hairstyle, aging, etc



Thank you.

Questions?