

# FRVT MORPH - Current Vulnerability Assessment and Automated Detection Performance

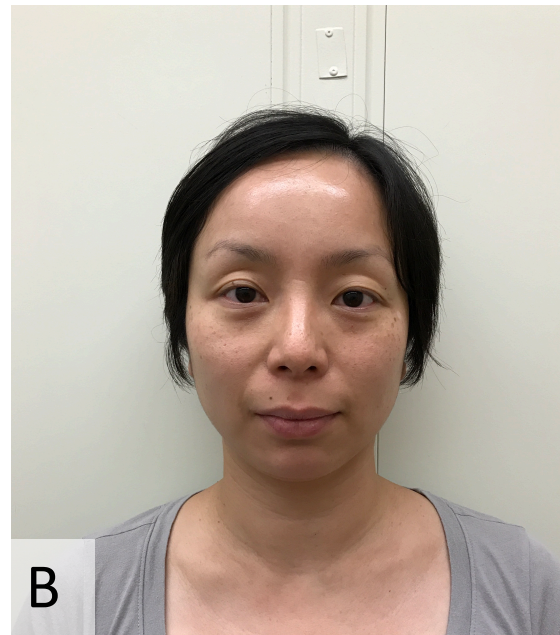
**Mei Ngan, Patrick Grother, Kayee Hanaoka**  
National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)  
US Department of Commerce

International Face Performance Conference (IFPC) 2022  
November 17, 2022

# Face Morphing



+



=



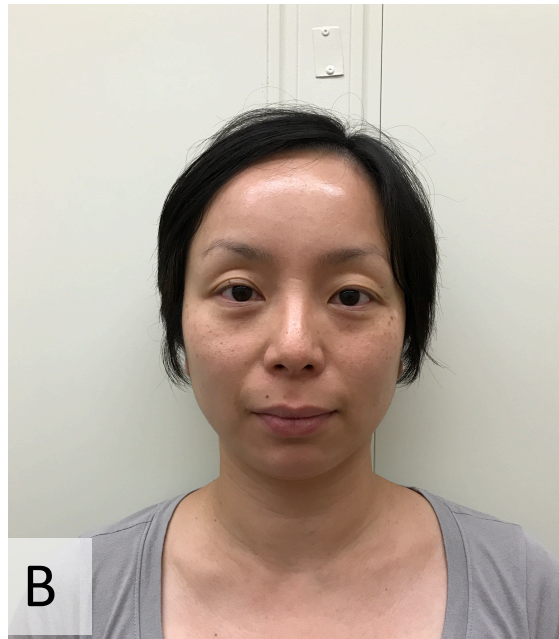
Image Source: NIST



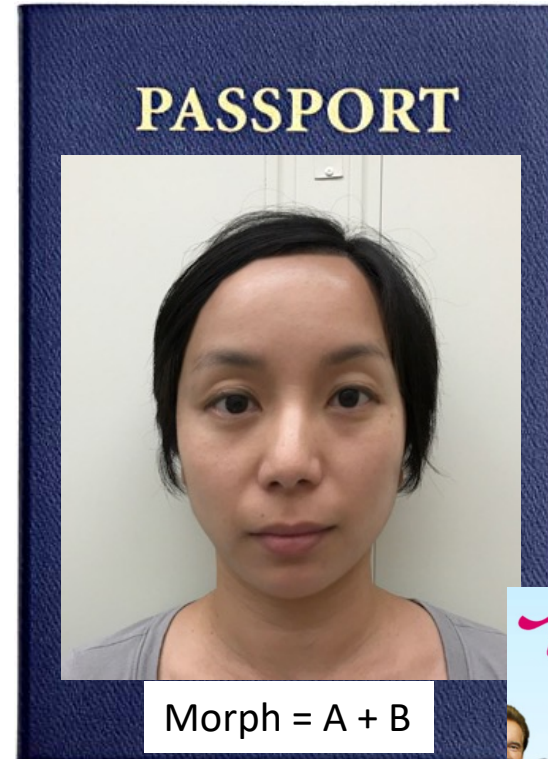
# Face Morphing



+



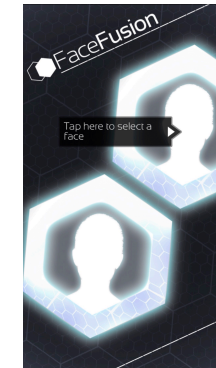
=



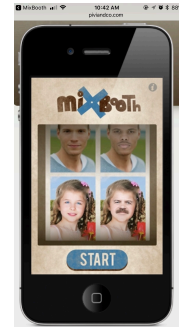
Morph = A + B

Image Source: NIST

Source: <http://www.piviandco.com/apps/mixbooth>



Source: <https://en.softonic.com/solutions/apps/facefusion-lite>

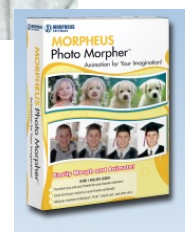


A

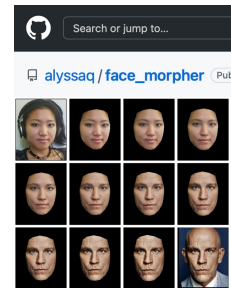
B



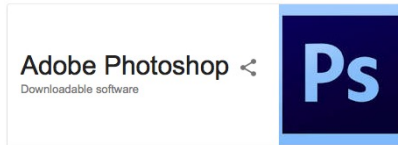
Source: <http://www.facemorpher.com>



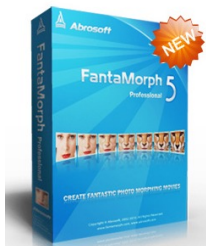
Source: <http://www.morpheussoftware.net>



Source: [https://github.com/alyssaq/face\\_morpher](https://github.com/alyssaq/face_morpher)



Source: <https://www.adobe.com/products/photoshop.html>



Source: <http://www.fantamorph.com>

Learn OpenCV



Source: <https://www.learnopencv.com/face-morph-using-opencv-cpp-python>



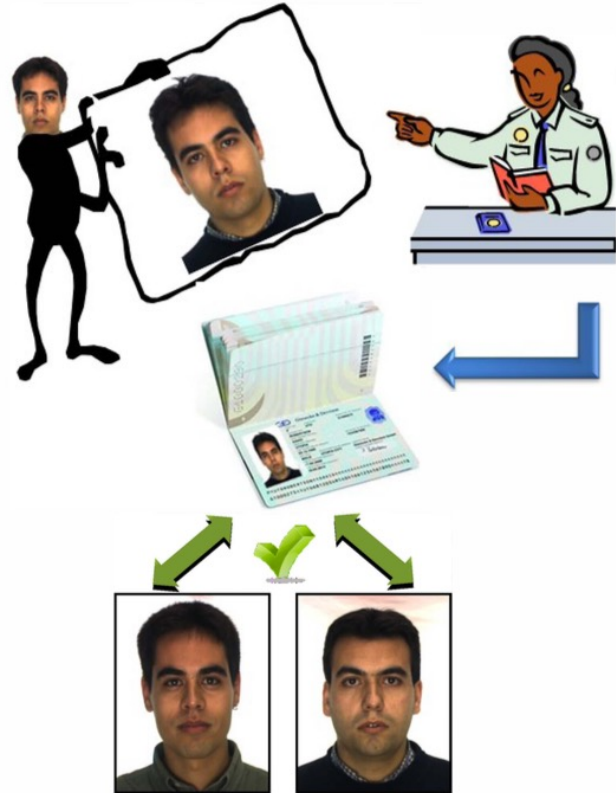
Source: <http://www.morphthing.com>

StyleGAN2 — Official TensorFlow Implementation



Source: <https://github.com/NVLabs/stylegan2>

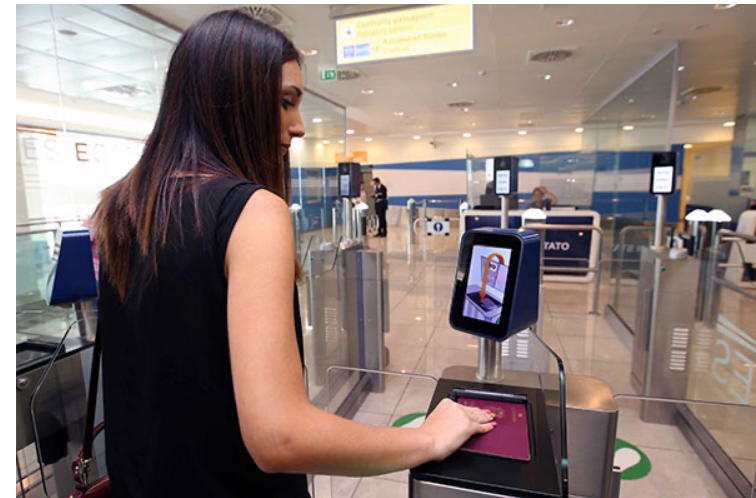
# Threats & Consequences



Accomplice Attacker (other identity)

Source: Ferrara, Franco, and Maltoni, *The Magic Passport*, IEEE International Joint Conference on Biometrics, October 2014, pp. 1-7

## Automated Border Control Gate

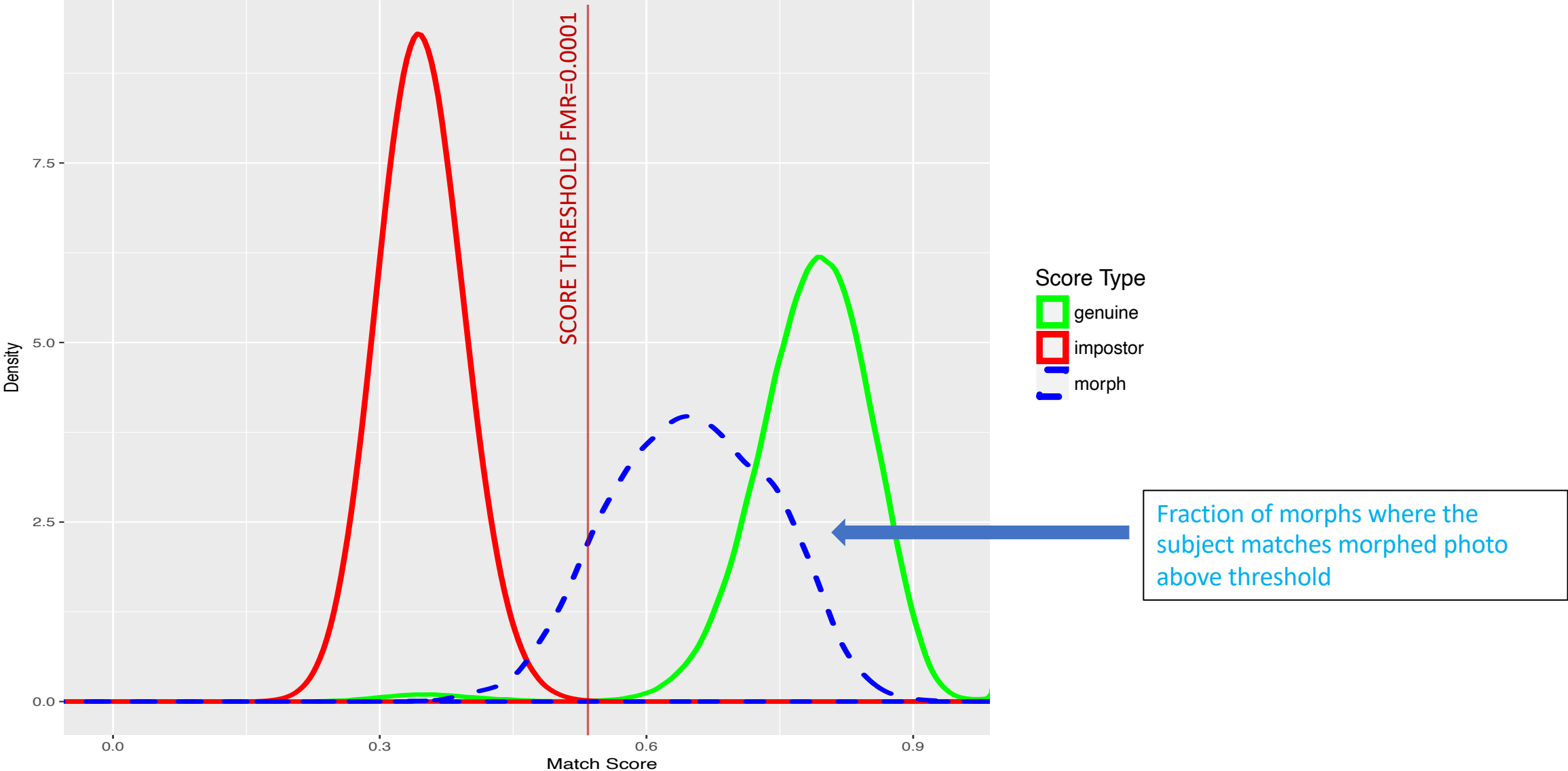


Source:  
<http://www.futuretravelexperience.com/2016/01/automated-border-control-e-gates-go-live-at-naples-airport/>

**Morphing poses a threat to entities that accept user-submitted photos for identity credentials**

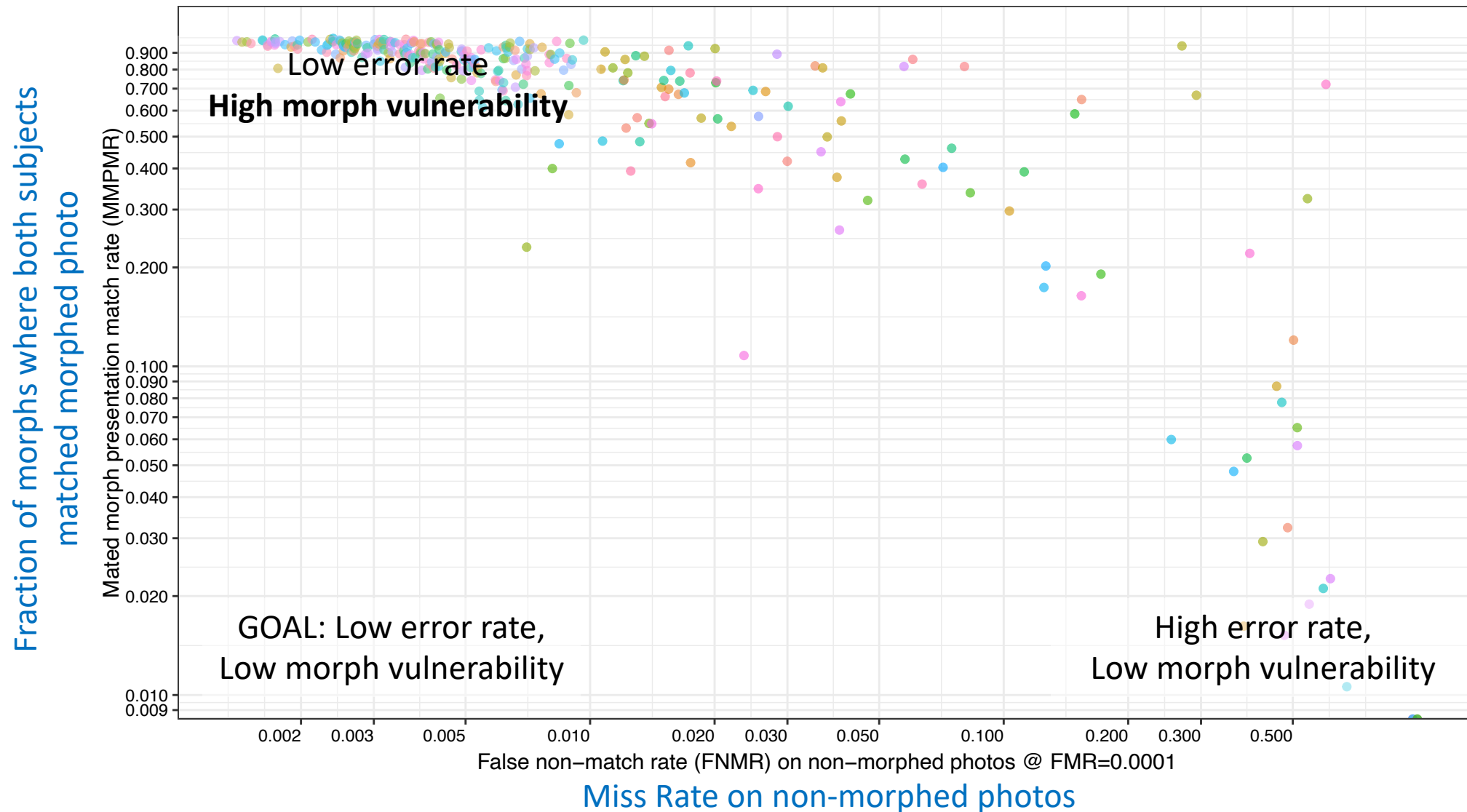


# Automated Face Recognition: Genuines, Impostors, and Morphs



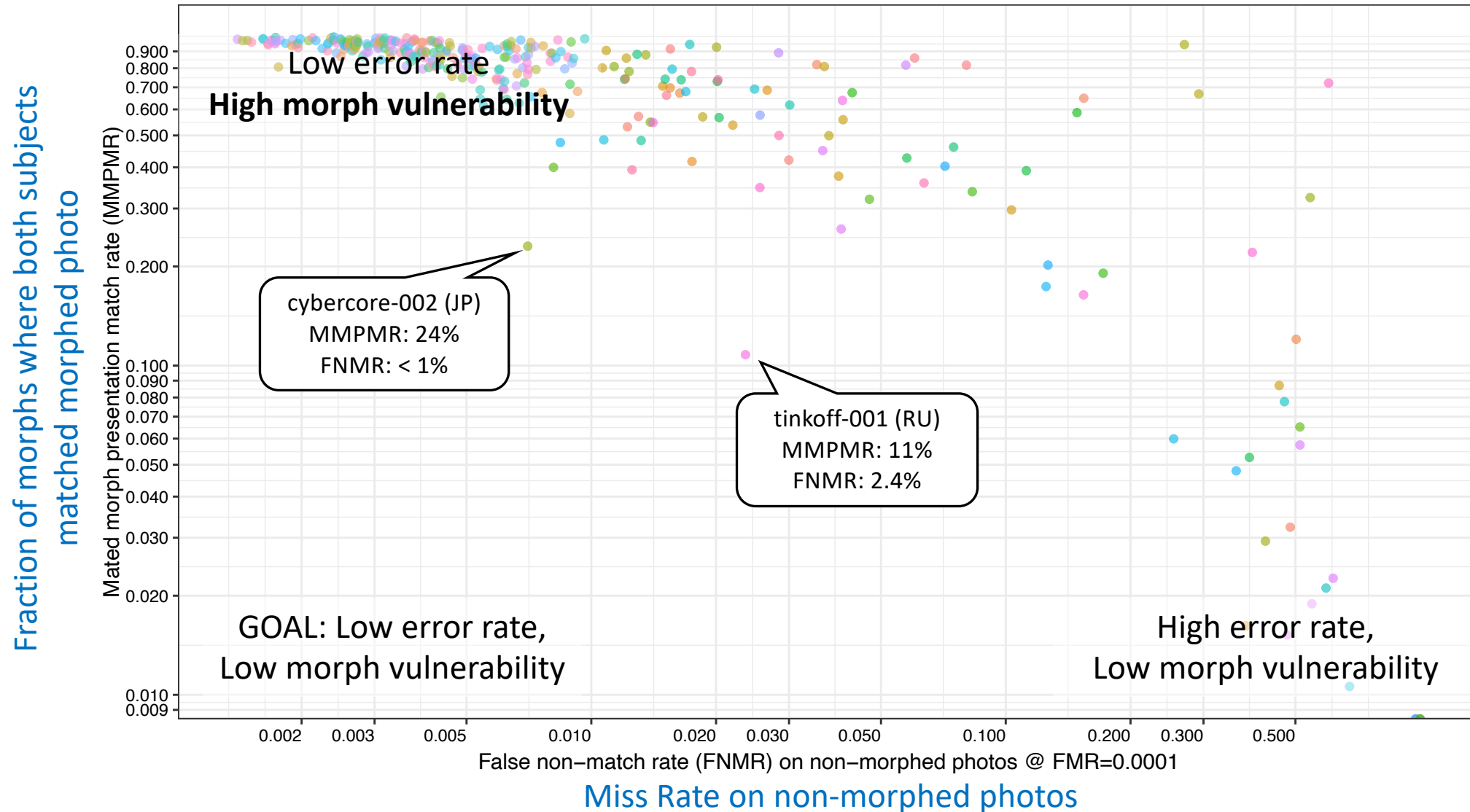
# Face morphing: Current face recognition vulnerability

Each dot represents a recent FR algorithm submitted to the NIST Ongoing FRVT 1:1 Verification Test



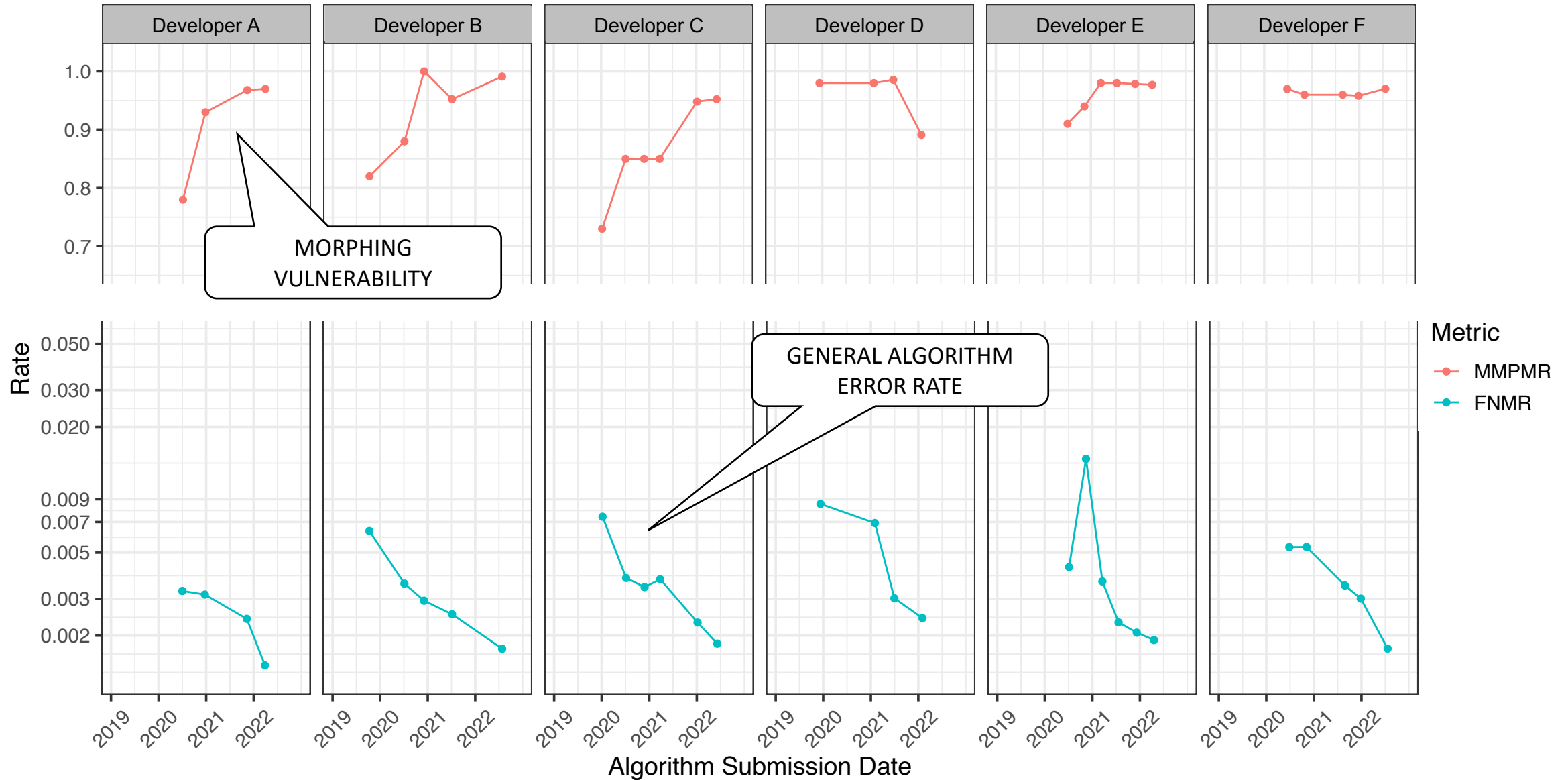
# Face morphing: Current face recognition vulnerability

Each dot represents a recent FR algorithm submitted to the NIST Ongoing FRVT 1:1 Verification Test





# Morphing vulnerability trends



# FRVT MORPH Use Case: Morph Detection

Single-image

Morph detection with single image in isolation  
(e.g., initial passport application)



Goal: Determine whether image being submitted is a morph or not.

Differential

Morph detection with additional live capture image  
(e.g., morph on passport + eGate webcam photo)

$C = A+B$ . Morphed image is contained in a passport

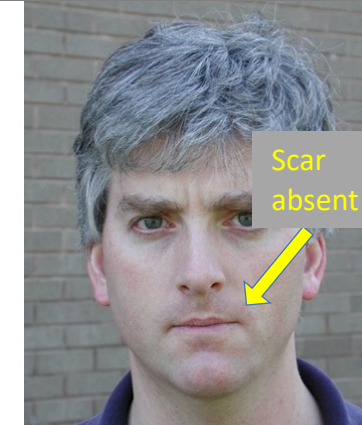
PASSPORT



A. Images of this image not available during authentication



B2: This image represents a live capture during an eGate border crossing, say.



Goal: Determine whether image on passport is morphed by using the additional information available in the live capture image.

## Academia

- Hochschule Darmstadt (DE)
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NO)
- University of Bologna (IT)
- West Virginia University (US)
- University of Coimbra (PT)

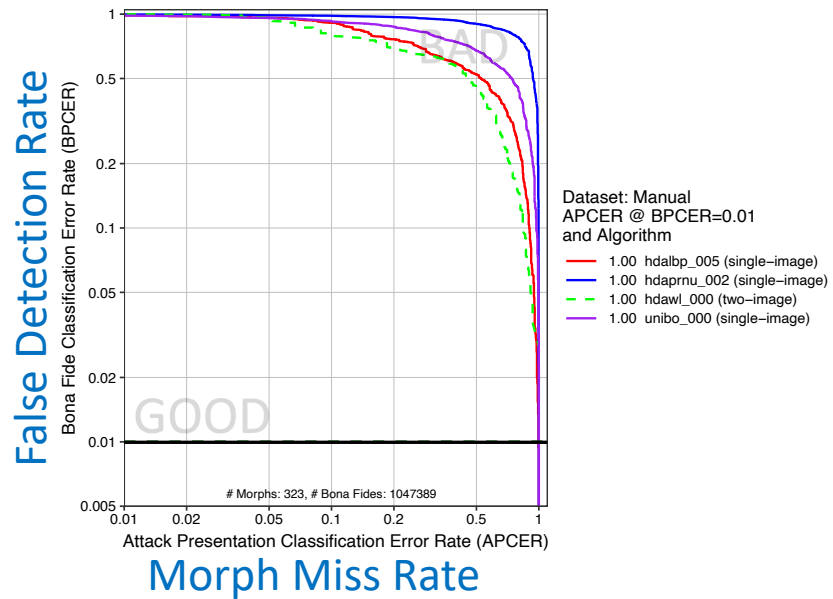
## Industry

- secunet (DE)



# Morph Detection: Progress

September 2019

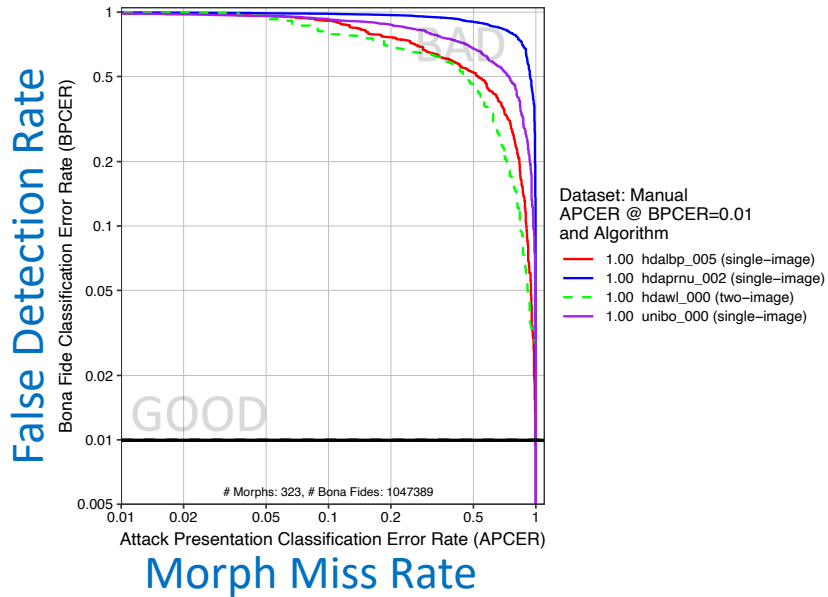


———— single-image

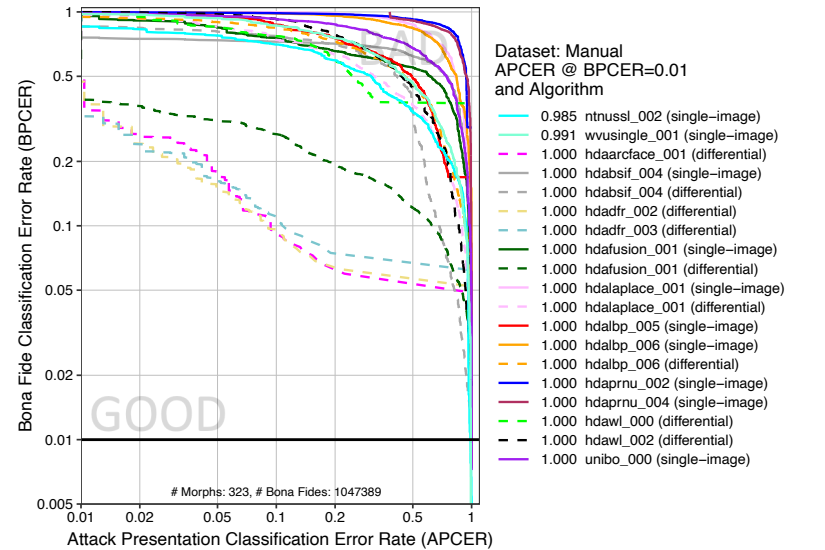
- - - differential  
(two-image)

# Morph Detection: Progress

September 2019



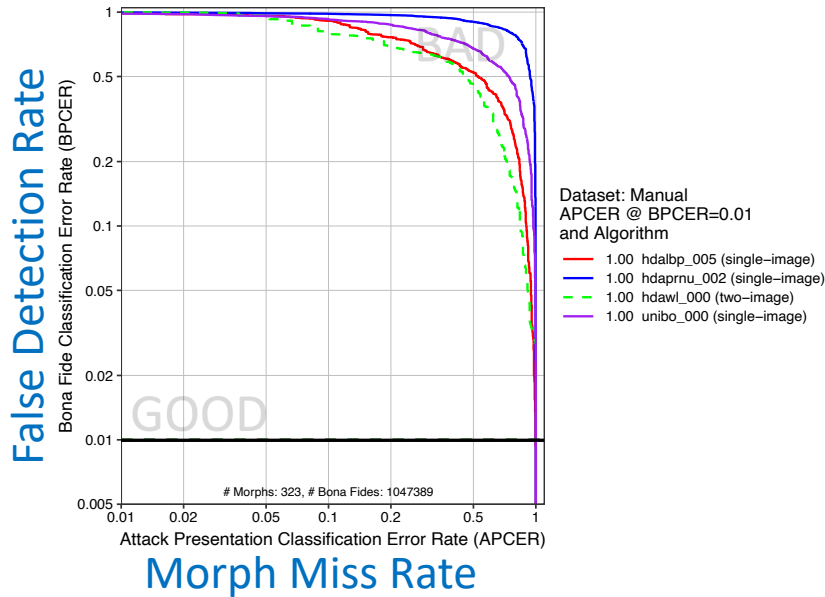
September 2021



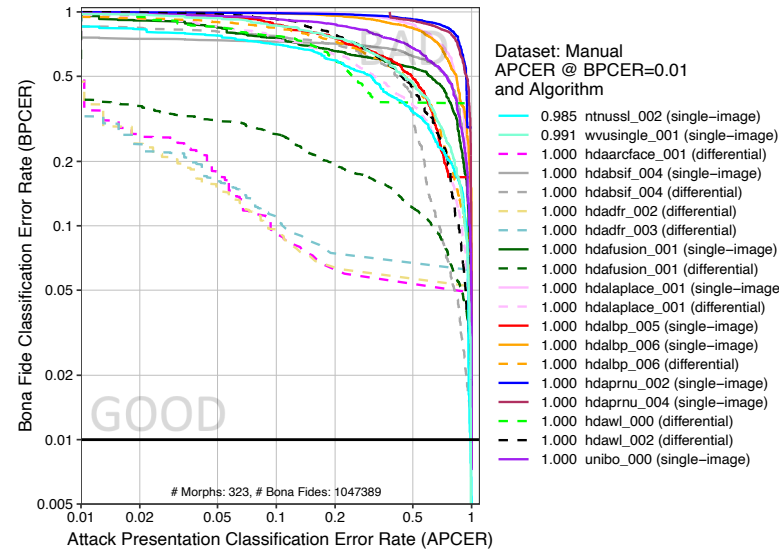
— single-image      - - - differential (two-image)

# Morph Detection: Progress

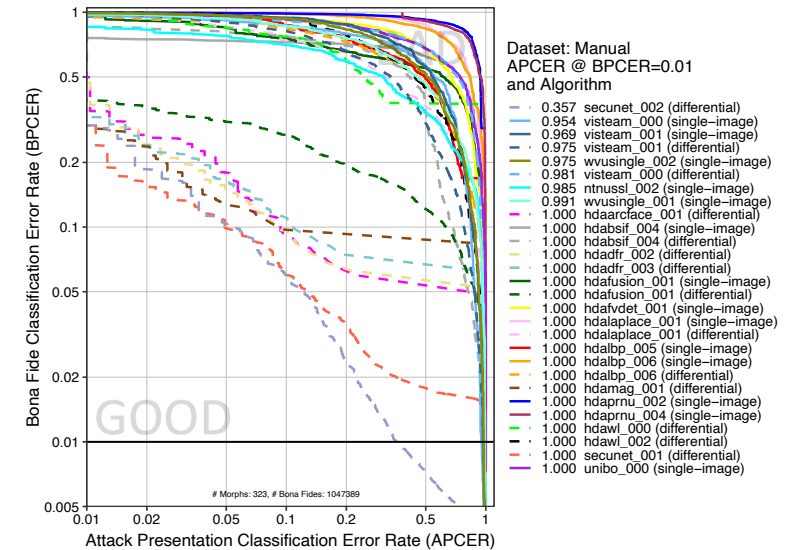
September 2019



September 2021



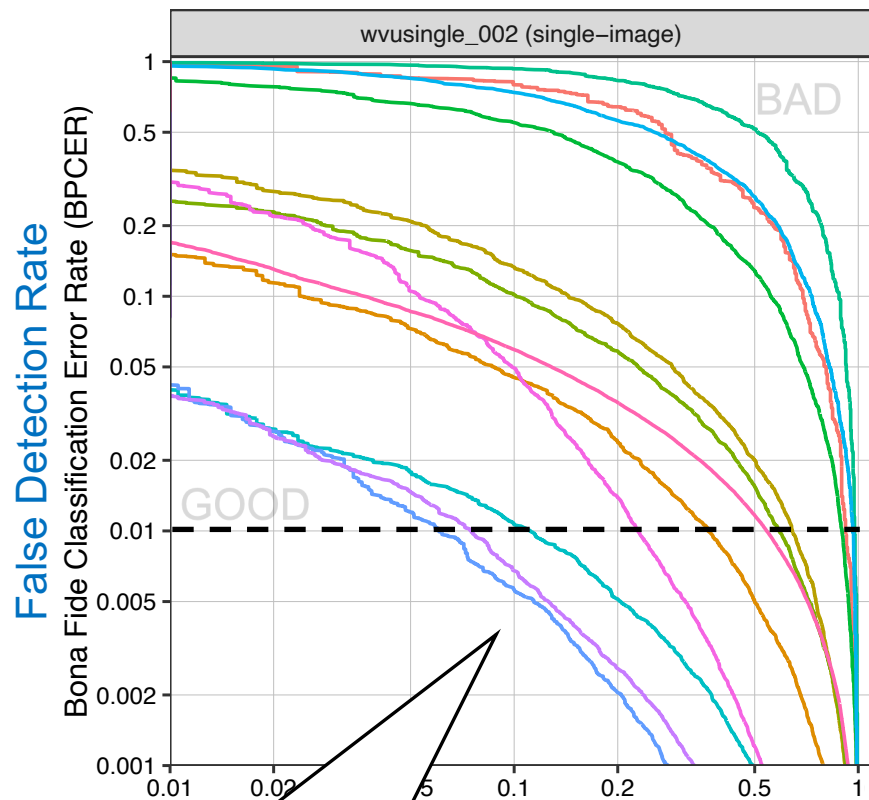
November 2022



— single-image      - - - differential (two-image)



# Morph Detection: Challenges and Opportunities



## Dataset

- Global Morph
- Local Morph
- Local Morph
- Colorized Average
- Local Morph
- Colorized Match
- UNIBO Automatic Morphed
- Face Generation Tool v1.0
- Visa-Border
- UNIBO Automatic Morphed
- Face Generation Tool v2.0
- Twente
- DST
- MIPGAN-II
- Manual
- Print+Scanned

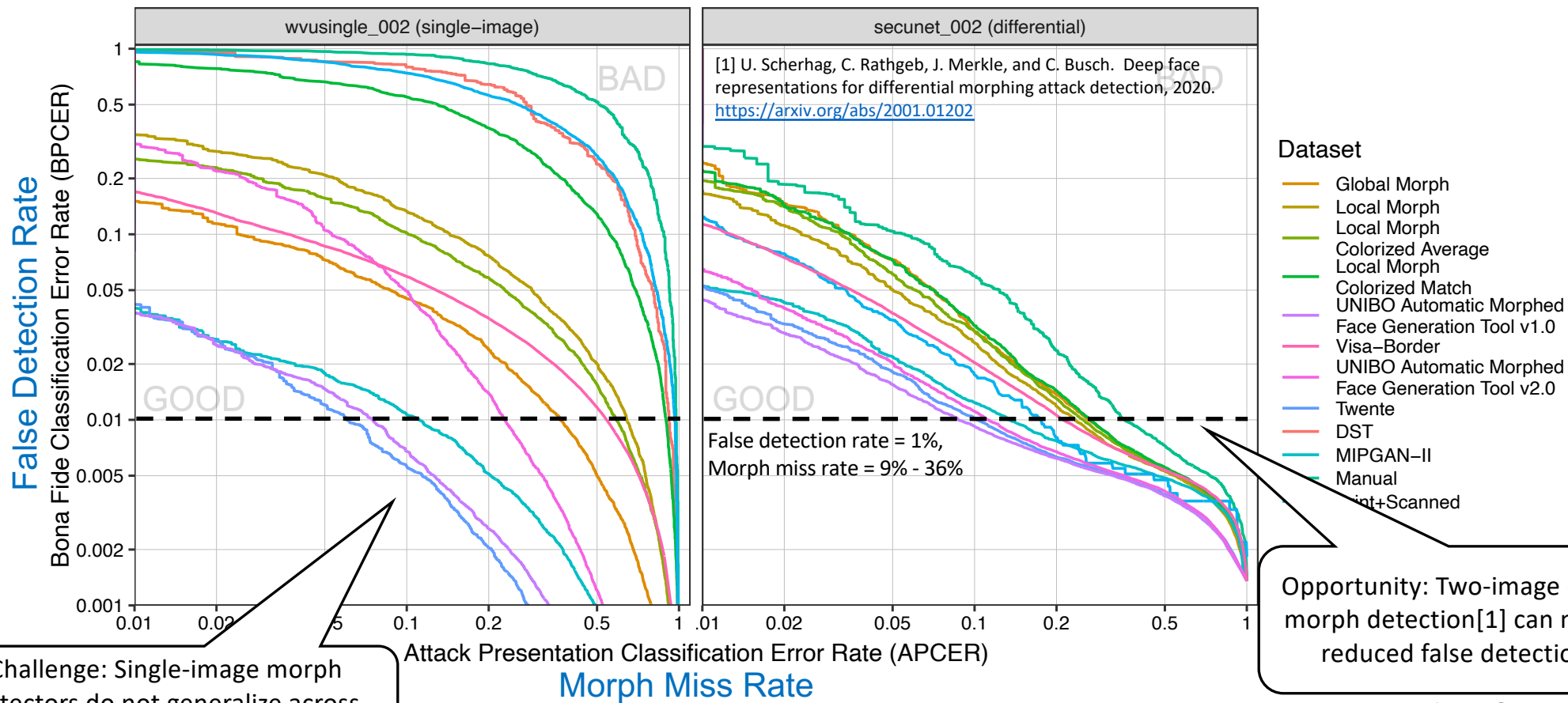
Challenge: Single-image morph detectors do not generalize across different morphing methods

Attack Presentation Classification Error Rate (APCER)  
Morph Miss Rate

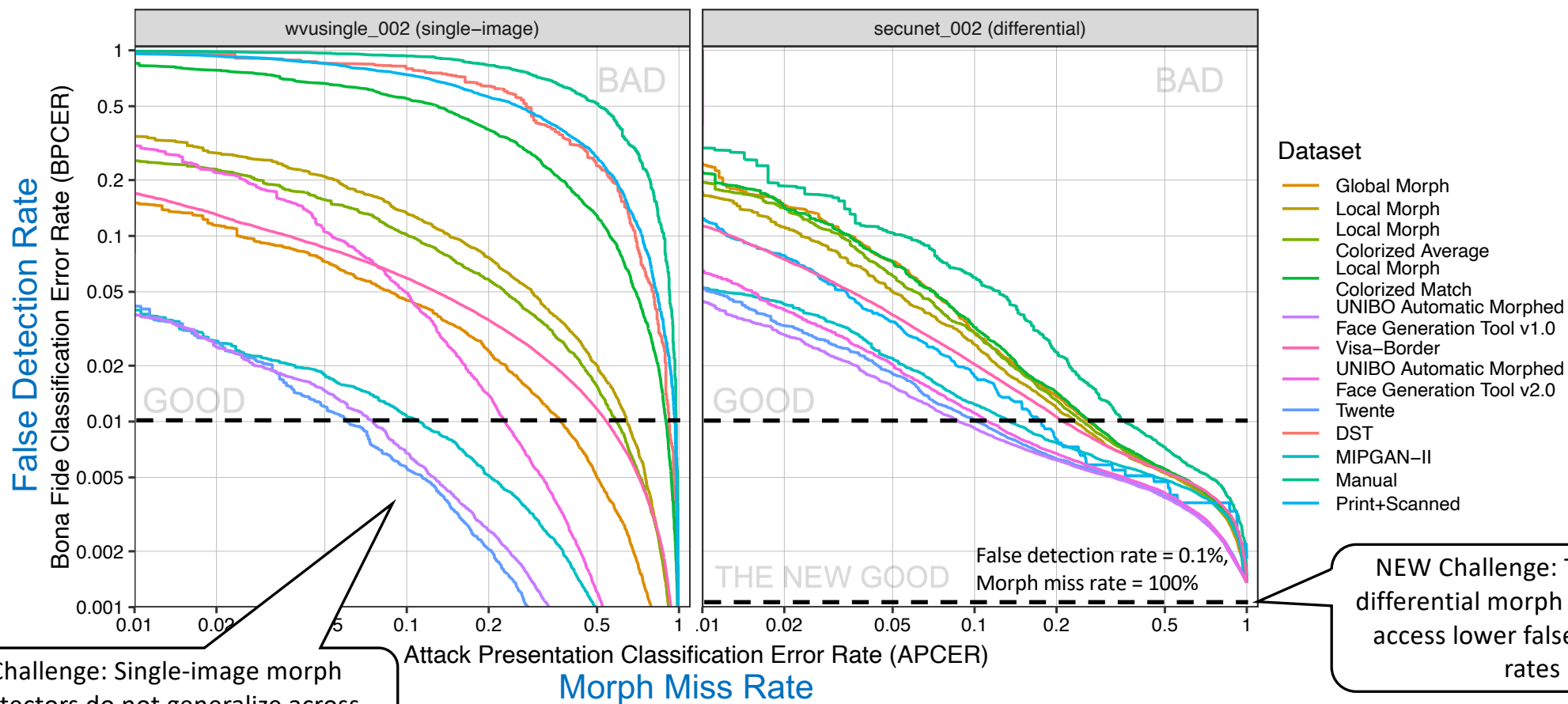
Image Source: NIST



# Morph Detection: Challenges and Opportunities



# Morph Detection: Challenges and Opportunities





# FRVT MORPH Use Case: Morph Resistant Face Recognition

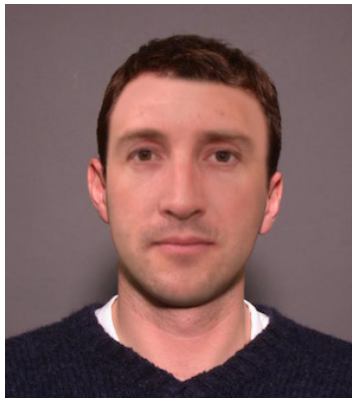
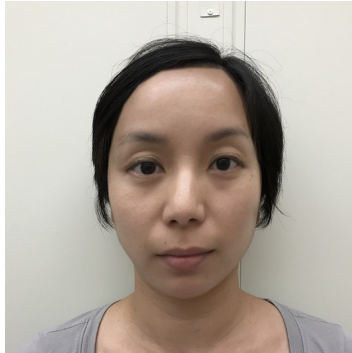


Image Source: NIST

**Use Case:** Test FR algorithm resistance against morphing

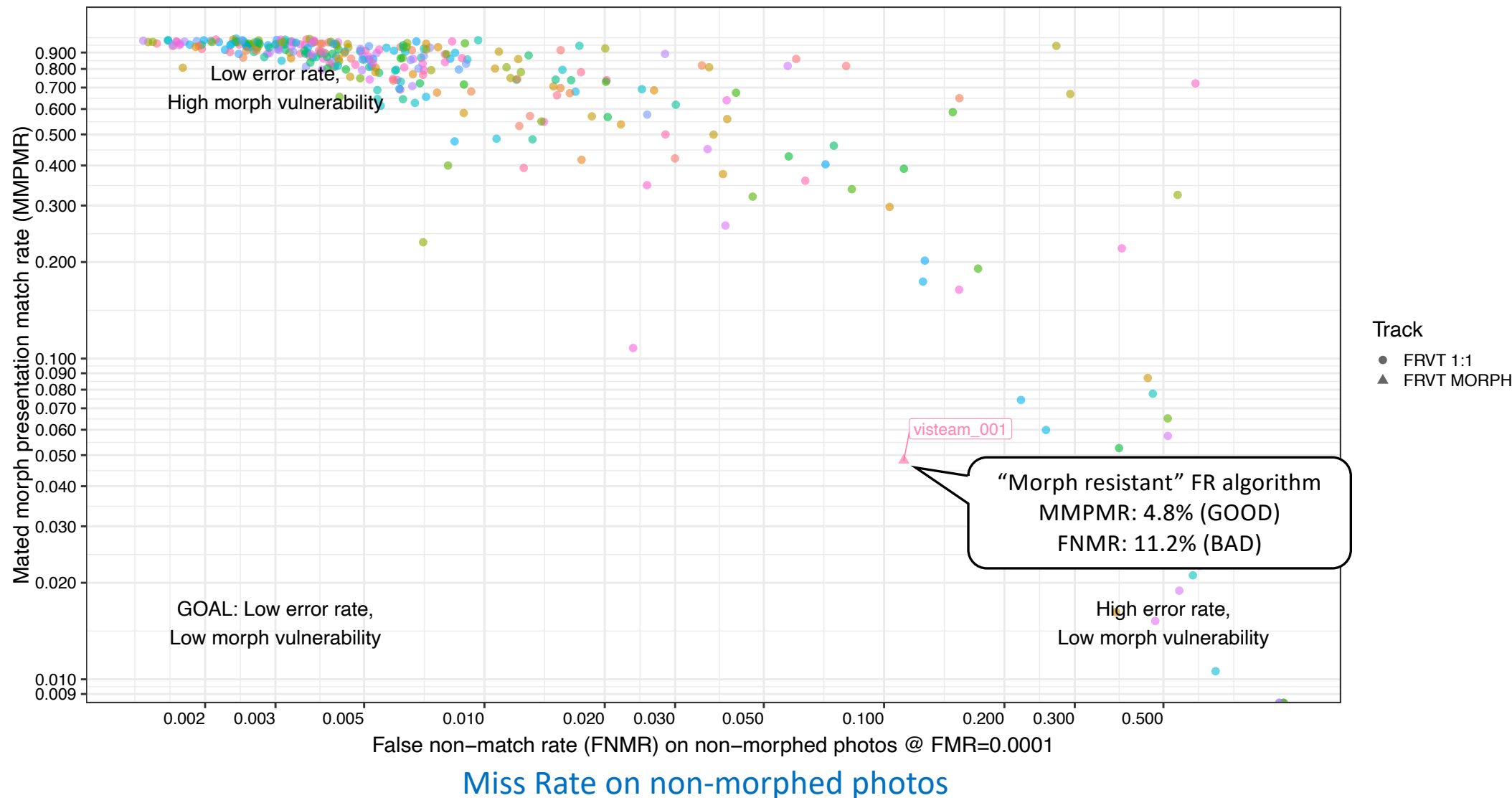
**Protocol:** Given image X and image Y, produce verification similarity score

**Evaluation:** ISO/IEC 30107-3 metrics

- Mated Morph Presentation Match Rate (MMPMR)
- False non-match rate (FNMR)
- False match rate (FMR)
- Others TBD

# Morph resistant face recognition performance

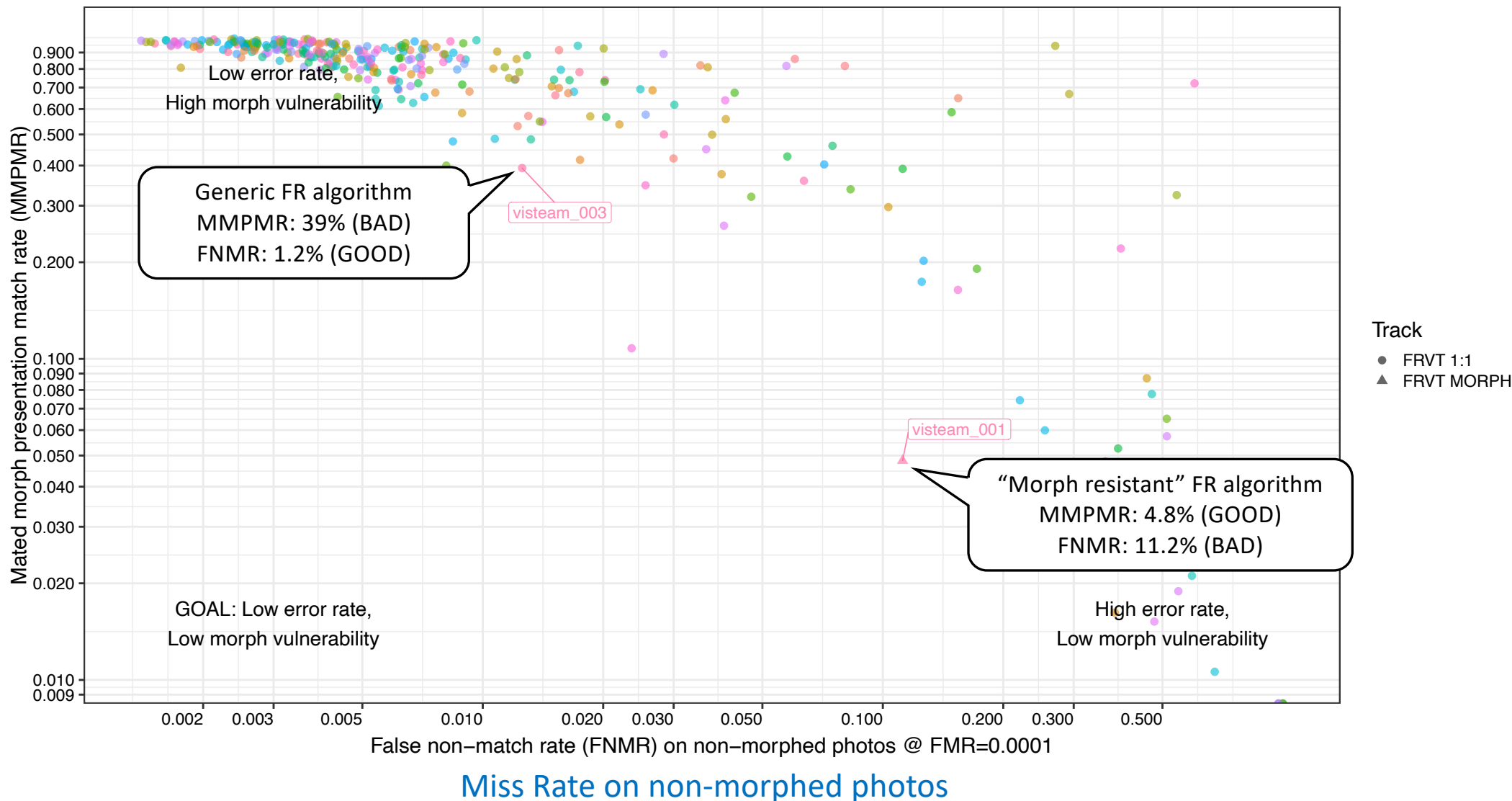
Fraction of morphs where both subjects  
matched morphed photo





# Morph resistant face recognition performance

Fraction of morphs where both subjects  
matched morphed photo

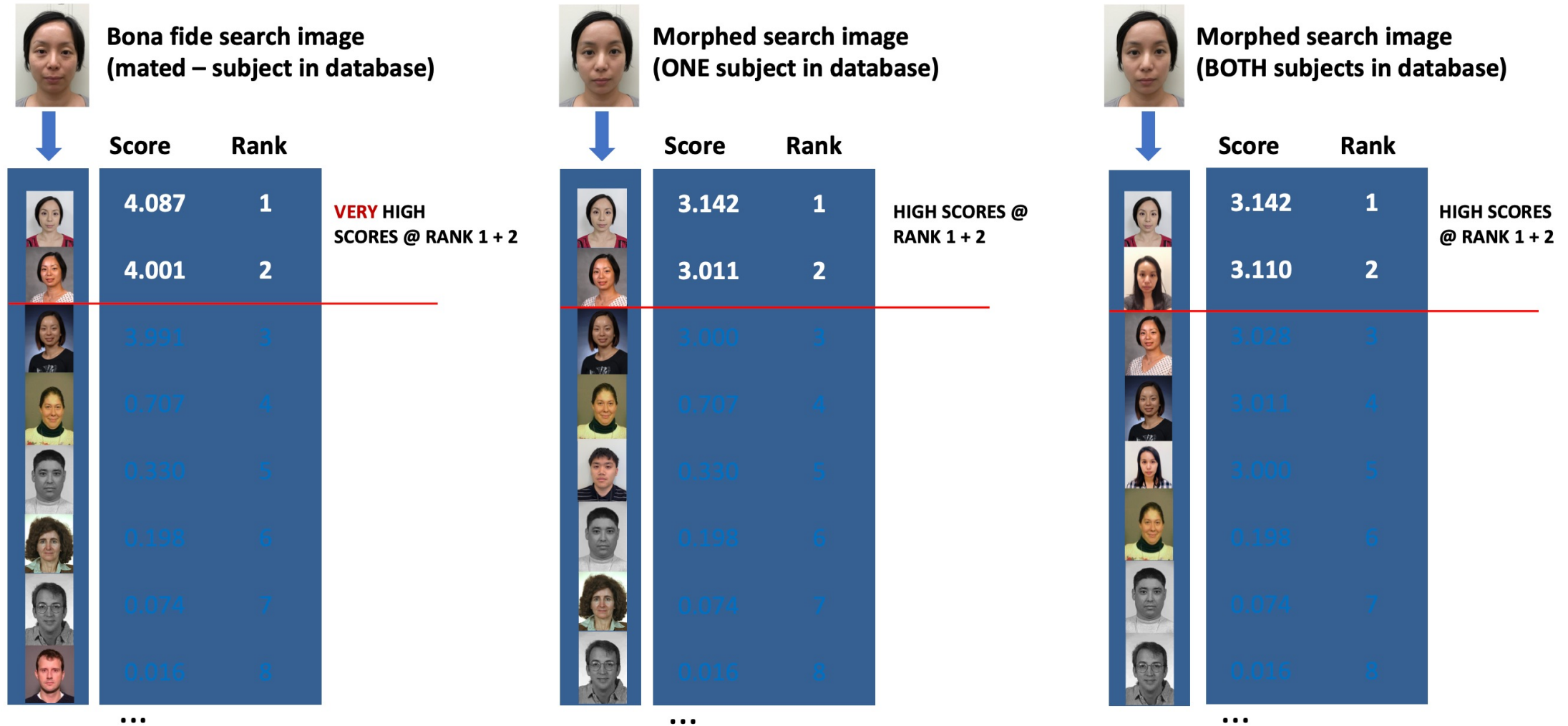


# Utility of 1:N search for morph detection

NISTIR 8430: FRVT Part 4A: MORPH – Utility of 1:N Face Recognition Algorithms for Morph Detection, July 27, 2022

# Analysis of rank 1 and 2 similarity scores from 1:N face recognition search for morph detection

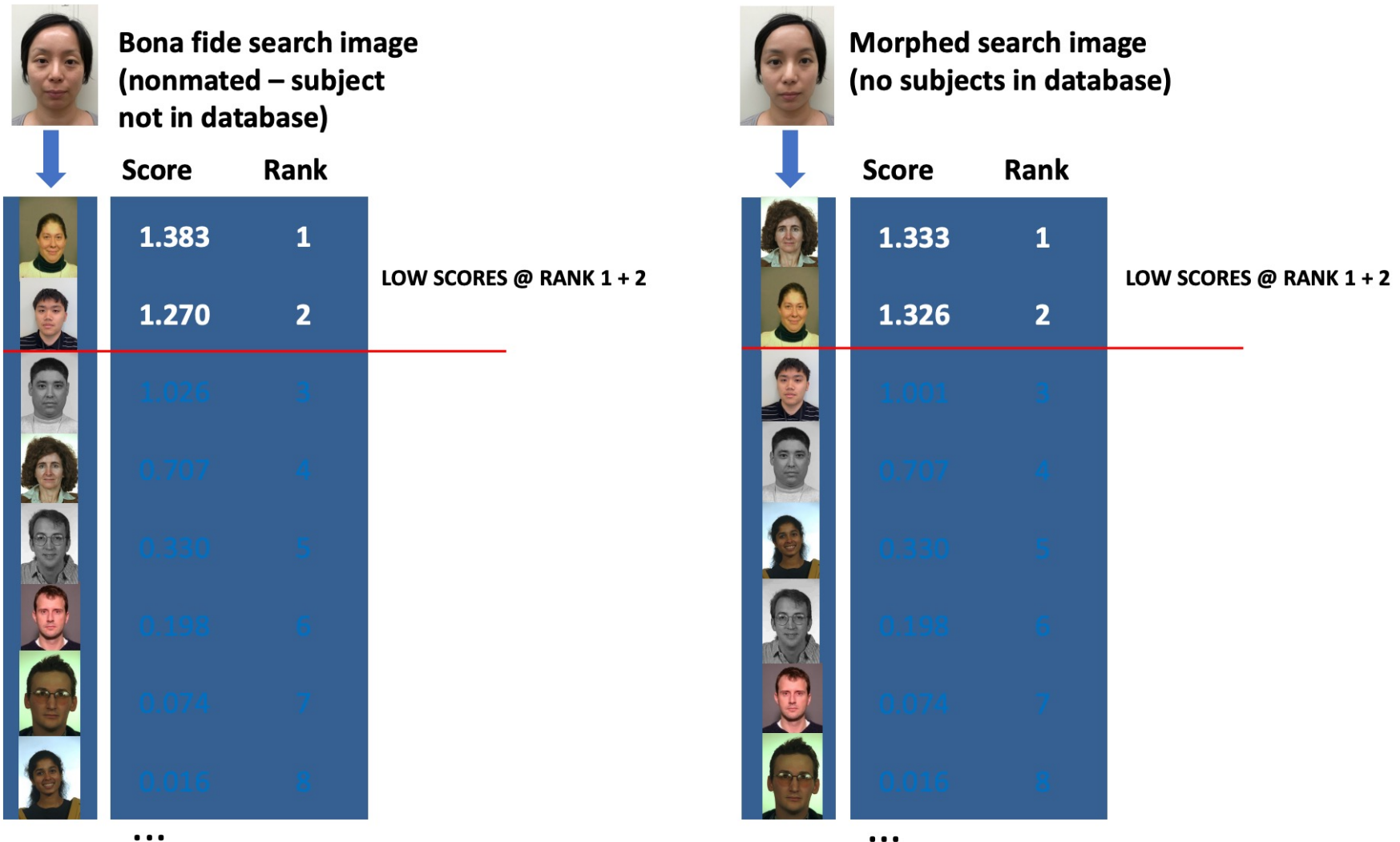
## SCENARIO: RENEWAL



All databases used in experiments contain bona fide imagery

# Analysis of rank 1 and 2 similarity scores from 1:N face recognition search for morph detection

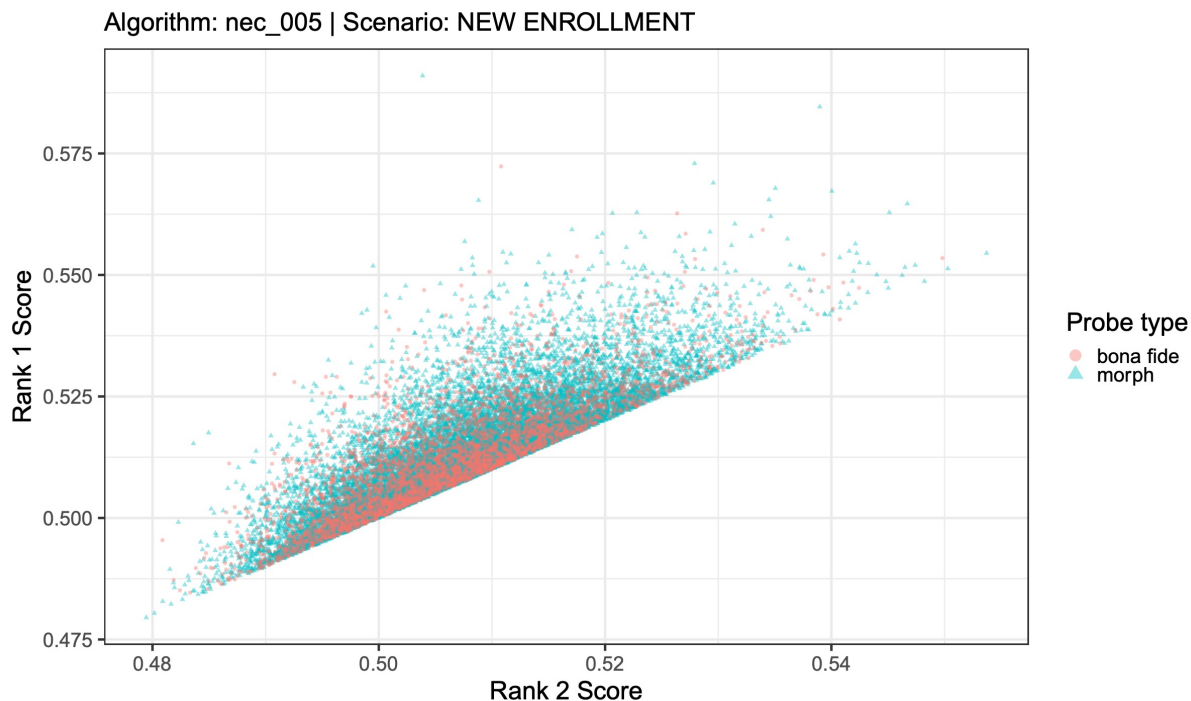
## SCENARIO: NEW ENROLLMENT



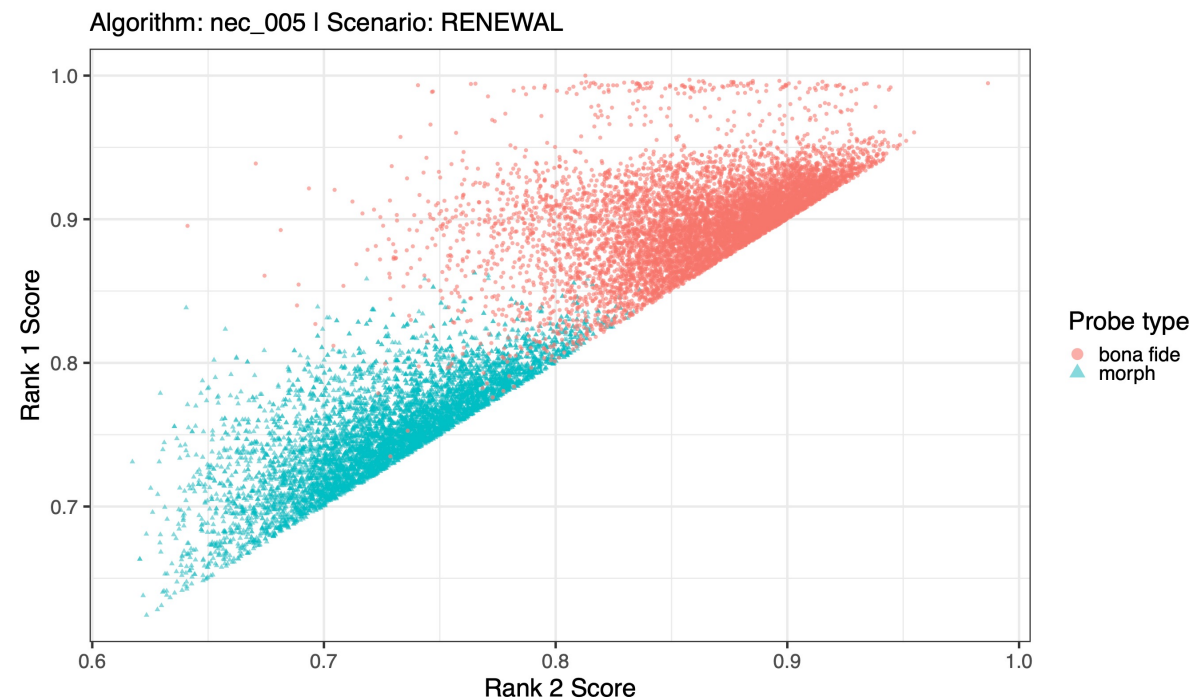
All databases used in experiments contain bona fide imagery

# Visualization of rank 1 and 2 similarity scores

Scenario: NEW ENROLLMENT  
(subjects do not exist in the database)



Scenario: RENEWAL  
(multiple photos of one or both subjects exist in the database)

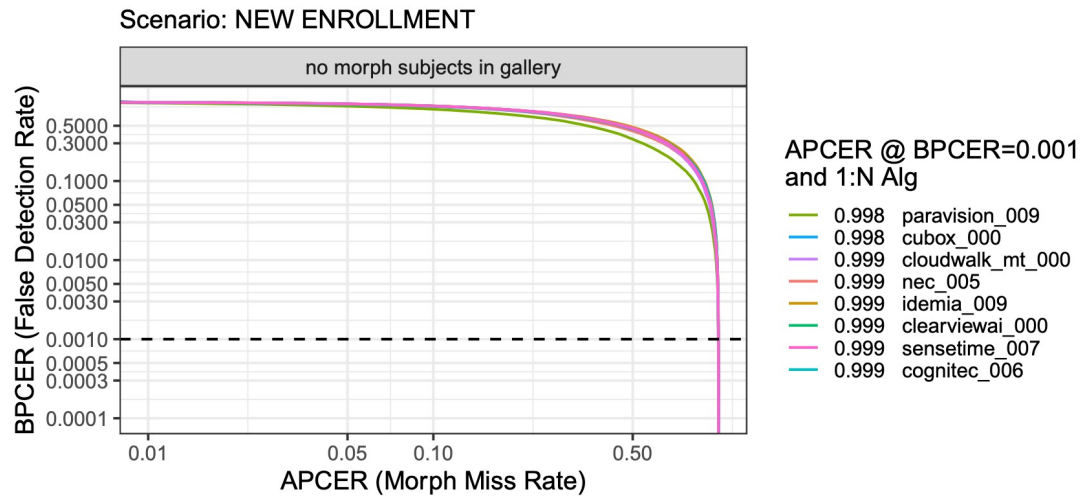


Large separation in score distributions  
presents detection opportunity!



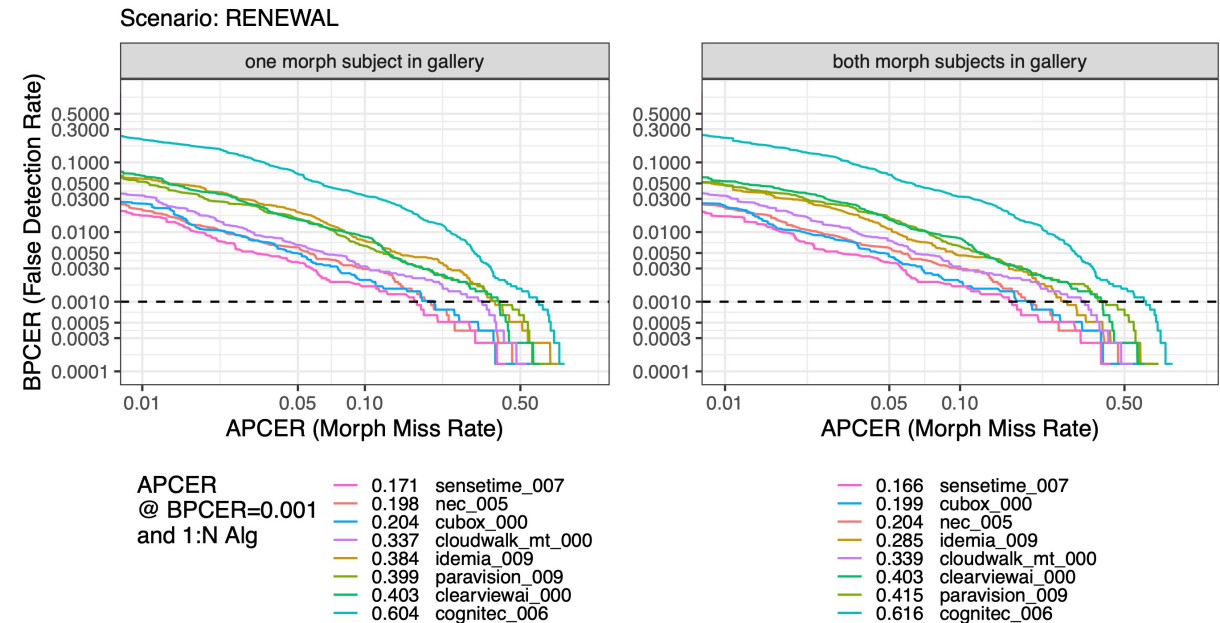
# Proof of concept: Morph detection results from training a morph classifier with rank 1 and 2 scores

## Scenario: NEW ENROLLMENT



Morph detection using 1:N face recognition is **not** effective in a new enrollment scenario

## Scenario: RENEWAL



Morph detection using 1:N face recognition may be effective in a renewal scenario (low false detection rates attainable)

- Modern face recognition is vulnerable to face morphing
- Automated morph detection has made notable progress
- One-to-many face recognition may have utility in morph detection under certain scenarios
- Other potential mitigations
  - Live enrollment (e.g., Norway, Sweden, Germany 2025!)
  - Human involvement remains critical (training + strong secondary verification processes)



**Thank you!**

**Mei Ngan**

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)  
US Department of Commerce

[frvt@nist.gov](mailto:frvt@nist.gov)