



**ATHENE**

National Research Center  
for Applied Cybersecurity

# Selection of a suitable data set for training a face image quality assessment algorithm

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# Problem statement

- Given: Plenty of face image data sets, collected for different purposes
  - <https://www.face-rec.org/databases/>
  - <http://interstellarengine.com/ai/dataset-face-recognition.html>
- Wanted: Data set for training a face image quality assessment algorithm
  - Input: Any image on which a face is detected  
(whether captured at an e-gate, entry/exit system or in the wild)
  - Output: Degree to which the input image supports automated recognition against ICAO-compliant reference face images (as in ISO/IEC WD 29794-5)

# Requirements on training data for supervised learning









- To be labelled with target values
- More than one face image per subject
  - To allow mated comparisons
- At least one ICAO-compliant reference face image per subject
  - To quantify the degree to which the face image supports automated recognition against ICAO-compliant reference face images
- Coverage of wide ranges of image properties and potential quality issues
  - Capture-related such as non-uniform illumination, under- or over-exposure, motion blur
  - Subject-related such as pose, facial expression
- As large as needed, but still manageable

# Considered face image data sets

- Color FERET Version 2
  - Scanned analog photos from 7 viewpoints
- Face Recognition Grand Challenge (FRGC) 2.0
  - Frontal face images, 2 lighting conditions, 2 facial expressions
- NIST Special Database 32 – Multiple Encounter Dataset II (MEDS-II)
  - 2 viewpoints, varying lighting conditions
- Multi-PIE
  - 15 viewpoints, 19 illumination conditions, 6 facial expressions
- VGGFace2
  - Hundreds of images per subject downloaded from the Internet, largely captured under unconstrained conditions (in the wild)





# Example: Influence of head pose on comparison score

[Color FERET Version 2 data set]

Reference							
Probe							
Dissimilarity score [ArcFace]	0.890	0.651	0.601	0.568	0.572	0.599	0.862

# Example: Influence of image size on comparison score







[Color FERET Version 2 data set]

Reference			
Probe			
Size	512 x 768	256 x 384	128 x 192
Dissimilarity score [ArcFace]	0.568	0.534	0.548

- Not the larger the better.



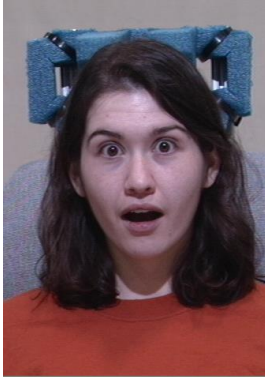


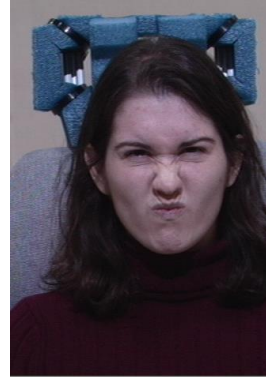

# Example: Influence of illumination on comparison score

[Multi-PIE data set]

Reference					
Probe					
Dissimilarity score [ArcFace]	0.586	0.577	0.556	0.472	0.538






















# Example: Influence of facial expression on comparison score

[Multi-PIE data set]

Reference						
Probe						
Dissimilarity score [ArcFace]	0.472	0.528	0.611	0.676	0.817	0.826



# Properties of the considered face image data sets

	ICAO compliance	Varying head pose	Varying image size	Varying illumination	Varying facial expression	Other quality issues
Color FERET Version 2						
FRGC 2.0						
MEDS-II						
Multi-PIE						
VGGFace2						

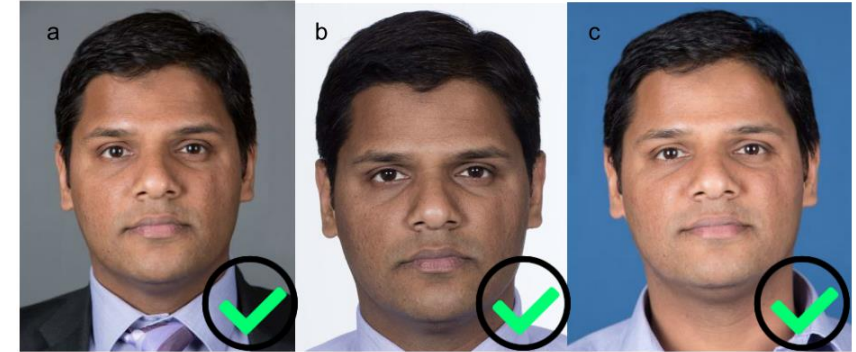
Key:  Fulfilled

 Partially fulfilled

# Selection of ICAO-compliant reference face images

- Essential ICAO portrait quality requirements (yes/no criteria)

- Number of faces: only one single face
- Image file colour: The image shall be captured in colour.
- Inter-eye distance:  $\geq 90$  pixels
- Background colour: grey, light blue or white
- Background texture: no texture
- Background contrast: The boundary between head and background should be clearly identifiable.
- Exposure values: Lighting shall be equally distributed on the face.
- Contrast: appropriate brightness and good contrast between face, hair and background
- Dynamic range: at least 50 % of intensity variation in the facial region
- Noise: high signal-to-noise ratio
- Head pose orientation: fully frontal
- Facial expression: neutral
- Eyes: The eye-visibility zone shall be visible and unobscured.



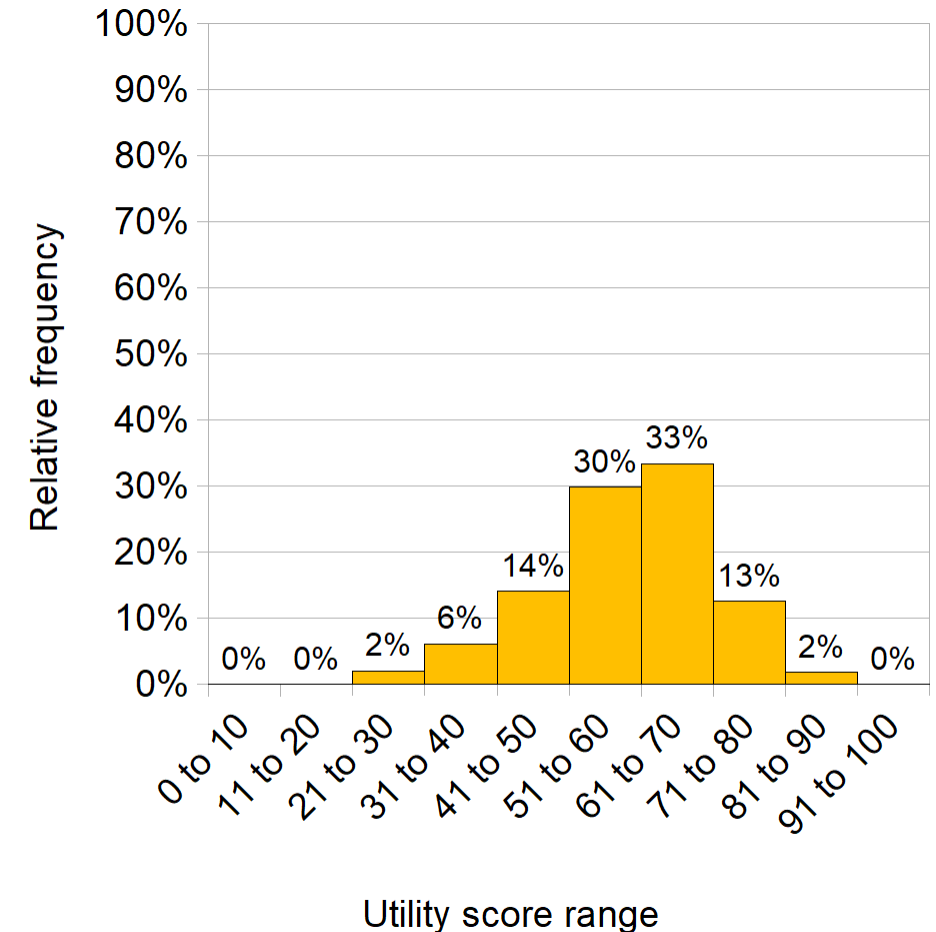
# Composed face image training data set

Data set	Number of ICAO-compliant reference images	Number of probe images
Color FERET Version 2	13	784
FRGC 2.0	44	947
MEDS-II	2	20
Multi-PIE	36	7,073
VGGFace2	25	9,830
Total	120	18,654

# Utility score distribution of composed training data set

## ■ Utility

- Degree to which a biometric sample supports biometric recognition performance [ISO/IEC 2382-37]
- ≈ Normalized difference between the means of mated and non-mated comparison scores for a sample, calibrated to the range from 0 to 100
  - Here: using ArcFace dissimilarity scores between each probe and each ICAO-compliant reference image
- Target labels for supervised training of a face image quality assessment algorithm



# Summary

- To quantify the degree to which an input image supports automated recognition against ICAO-compliant reference face images, at least one ICAO-compliant reference face image per subject is needed
- To cover wide ranges of potential quality issues, images should be selected from multiple face image data sets
- List of face images in our composed data set available for re-use



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