Human vs. Automatic Measurement of Biometric Sample Quality

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Background

- Measures of biometric quality are notoriously difficult
- Typically, we have considered (implicitly or explicitly) humans to be the correct judge of quality
- We wanted to understand the relationship between human quality measures and those from machines

Experiments

	Face	Iris
	Mugshot DB	Our DB
Human Quality	8 subjects	8 subjects
Biometric Quality	6 algorithms	1 algorithm
Image Quality Measures	IQM ¹	IQM ¹

¹www.mitre.org/tech/mtf/

Human Quality Evaluation



Issues in Human Evaluations

- Scale differences
 - Analysis cannot compare raw values
- Training Effect
 - Users were allowed to familiarize with database
- What is evaluated?
 - Instructions were: "assess biometric image quality"

Quality from Match scores

Model: *MS from genuine comparisons is due to image qualities*

Except:

- Identical comparisons
- Different pose / age / etc.

$$MS_{i,j} = Q_i Q_j \qquad \begin{array}{c} 0 < MS < 1 \\ 0 < Q < 1 \end{array}$$



Comparisons

- Are humans consistent with each other?
- Are algorithms consistent with each other?
- Are humans consistent with algorithms, or other quality measures?

Are humans consistent?

Face

- Yes (p<.001)
- Average correlation coefficient r=.613

Iris

- Yes (p<.001)
- Average correlation coefficient r=.723

Are algorithms consistent?

Face

- Yes (p<.001)
- Average correlation coefficient r=.534
- Highest correlations not between different versions of same vendors SW

Iris

• Could not analyse (only one alg.)

Humans vs. algorithms





Worst Faces +

Human Selections



Algorithm Selections















Human Selections





Algorithm Selections





Worst Irises +



Discussion

- Work done on Face / Iris.
 - Fingerprints are different because there are fingerprint experts
- Humans are consistent
- Algorithms are consistent
- **But,** humans are not consistent with algorithms

What does this mean?

- Naïve ideas about quality measures may not be relevant to algorithms
- Some countries are vetting submitted passport photos for Face Rec
 - How useful is this really?

Comment: *Quality*

- *Quality* is a value laden term
- Can we tell users this?



• Maybe we need another term: *Clarity?*