



# Multibiometric Traits of Identical Twins

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# Introduction

- Twin birth rate: 32.2 per 1000 births in the United States (2005)<sup>1</sup>
  - Increased at a rate of 3% per year between 1990 and 2004
  - Causes: use of fertility drugs, older age at childbearing
- (2006) Rape case in Boston, MA<sup>2</sup>
  - Two mistrials
  - Key evidence: DNA
  - Confusion: identical twin brother



<sup>1</sup>Martin et al., "Annual Summary of Vital Statistics: 2006," *Pediatrics*, 788-801 (2008)

<sup>2</sup><http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,188801,00.html>

# Introduction

- Carjacking case in Georgia<sup>1</sup> (2010)
  - DNA (wrong twin arrested)
  - Fingerprint & cell phone records identified the correct twin
- Health care fraud
  - Identification based on photo ID
  - Similarity of identical twin's faces
  - Health insurance companies in Brazil use fingerprint for authentication

Ability of biometric systems to distinguish identical twins is important and necessary



<sup>1</sup><http://homelandsecuritynewswire.com/identical-dna-problem-georgia-police-which-identical-twin-committed-crime>

# Fingerprint Discriminability

- Individual characteristics of friction ridge skin are determined during the 7th week of gestational age
- Minor changes in the microenvironment and/or position of the fetus cause the minute skin structures on finger tips to differentiate
- This explains the difference even in fingerprints of identical twins



Fingerprints of an identical twin pair

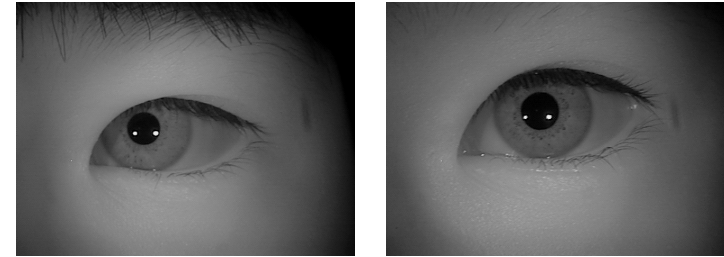


Fingerprints of two unrelated persons

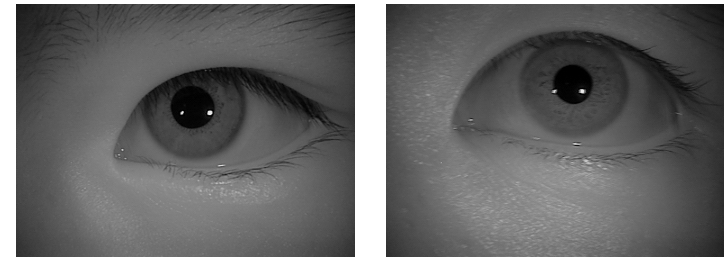


# Iris Discriminability

- Iris texture pattern is formed and becomes stable after the eighth month of gestation
- Formation of iris pattern is believed to be determined by the gestation environment
- Our study and a more recent one<sup>1</sup> (2010) indicates that iris of identical twins are more similar than iris of unrelated persons



Iris images of an identical twin pair

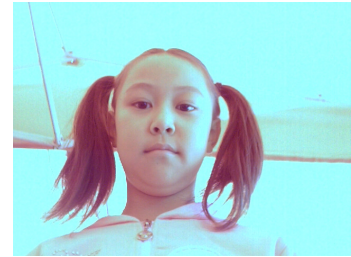


Iris images of two unrelated persons

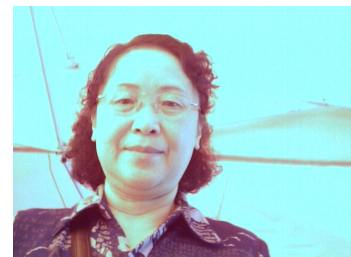
<sup>1</sup> Hollingsworth, K.; Bowyer, K.; Flynn, P. Similarity of Iris Texture between Identical Twins. *CVPR 2010*.

# Face Discriminability

- Face is composed of (i) skull characteristics and (ii) musculature and associated soft tissue
- Facial skeleton = framework for the musculature
- Facial form is also influenced by gender and age
- Muscles vary in their presence, form, location, and control, which change a person's face with aging
- Identical twins are more likely to be distinguished when they are older



Face images of a young identical twin pair



Face images of an older identical twin pair

# Previous Studies

These studies focused only on individual biometric traits

Biometric trait	Database size	Correlated?*	Distinguishable?**
Palmprint [5]	53 sets	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Fingerprint [4]	94 sets	-	<i>Yes</i>
Fingerprint [9]	66 sets	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Fingerprint [10]	298 sets of twins	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Face (3D) [11]	1 pair	-	<i>Yes</i>
Speech [7]	49 sets	-	<i>Yes</i>
Speech [13]	12 sets	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Iris [8]	6 pairwise comp.	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Iris (UND)	76 pairs	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>

\* Similarity of the trait between identical twins is greater than the similarity between unrelated persons.

\*\* Identical twins could be distinguished, with a slight drop in recognition performance.

# Data collection

- Database collected during the twin festival in Beijing (2007)
- 51 sets of identical twins and 15 sets of non-identical twins
  - face, 4 fingerprints, and 2 iris images for each subject
- Average age of subjects: 17 (range 5-65)
- The only multibiometric twin database that we are aware of



Kiosk for biometric acquisition



Face acquisition device



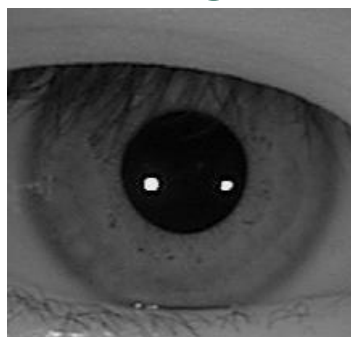
# Biometrics of twins

- Iris and fingerprint are claimed to be unique for identical twins

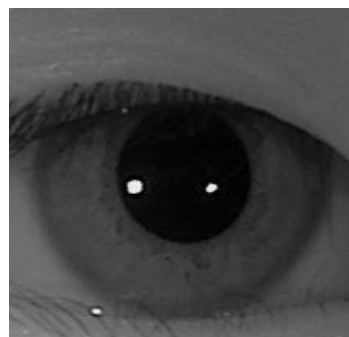
Iris



Template



Identical Twin



Unrelated Person

Fingerprint



Template



Identical Twin

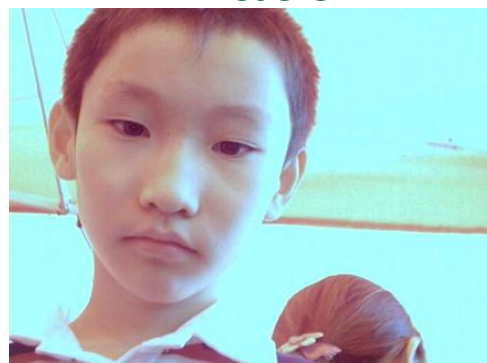


Unrelated Person

Face



Template



Identical Twin



Unrelated Person

# Experiments

- Matches performed
  - Genuine matches: 134
  - Identical twin impostor matches: 102
  - General impostor matches: 17,720
- Matchers used
  - Face: FaceVacs from Cognitec
  - Fingerprint: VeriFinger from Neurotechnology
  - Iris: CASIA matcher



Image 1 of  
subject A1



Image 2 of  
subject A1



Image 1 of  
subject A1



Image 1 of  
subject A2

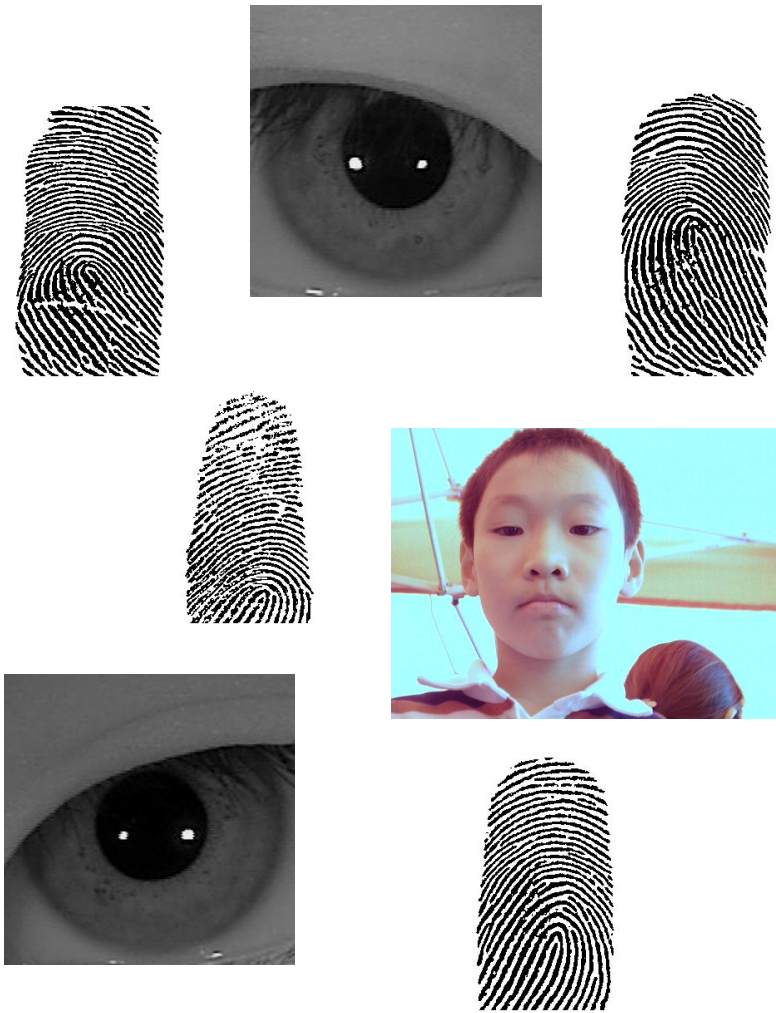


Image 1 of  
subject A1

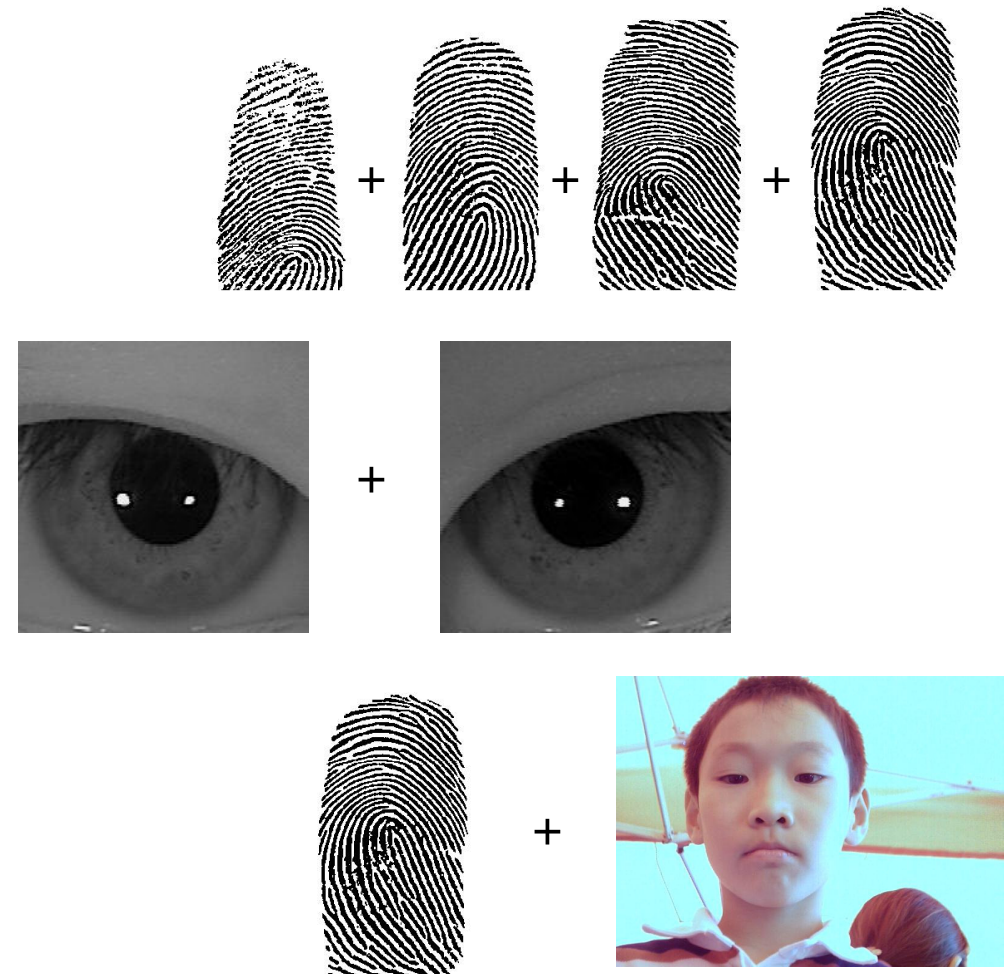


Image 1 of  
subject B1

# Unimodal and Multimodal Biometrics

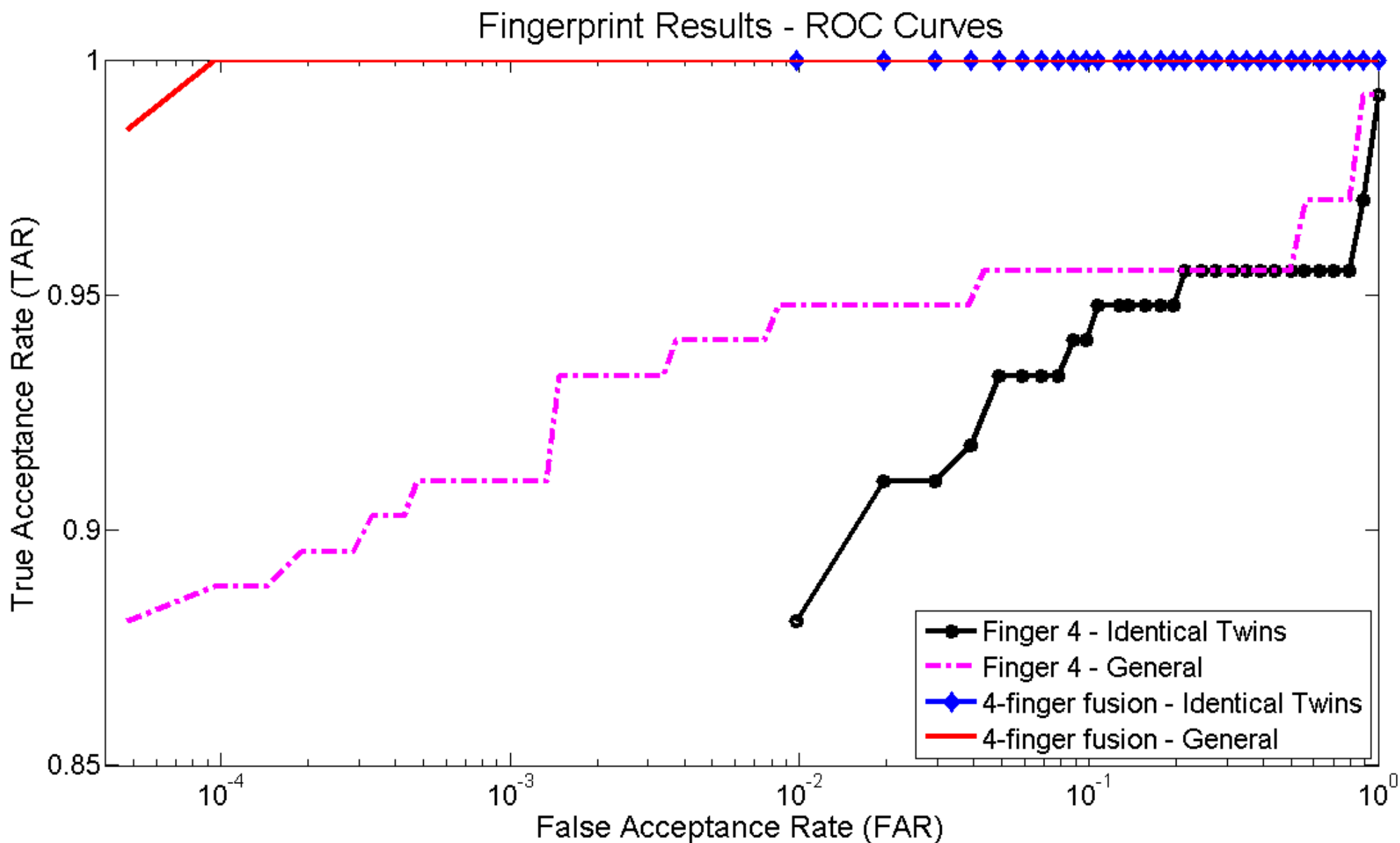


Unimodal experiments: one finger, one iris and face



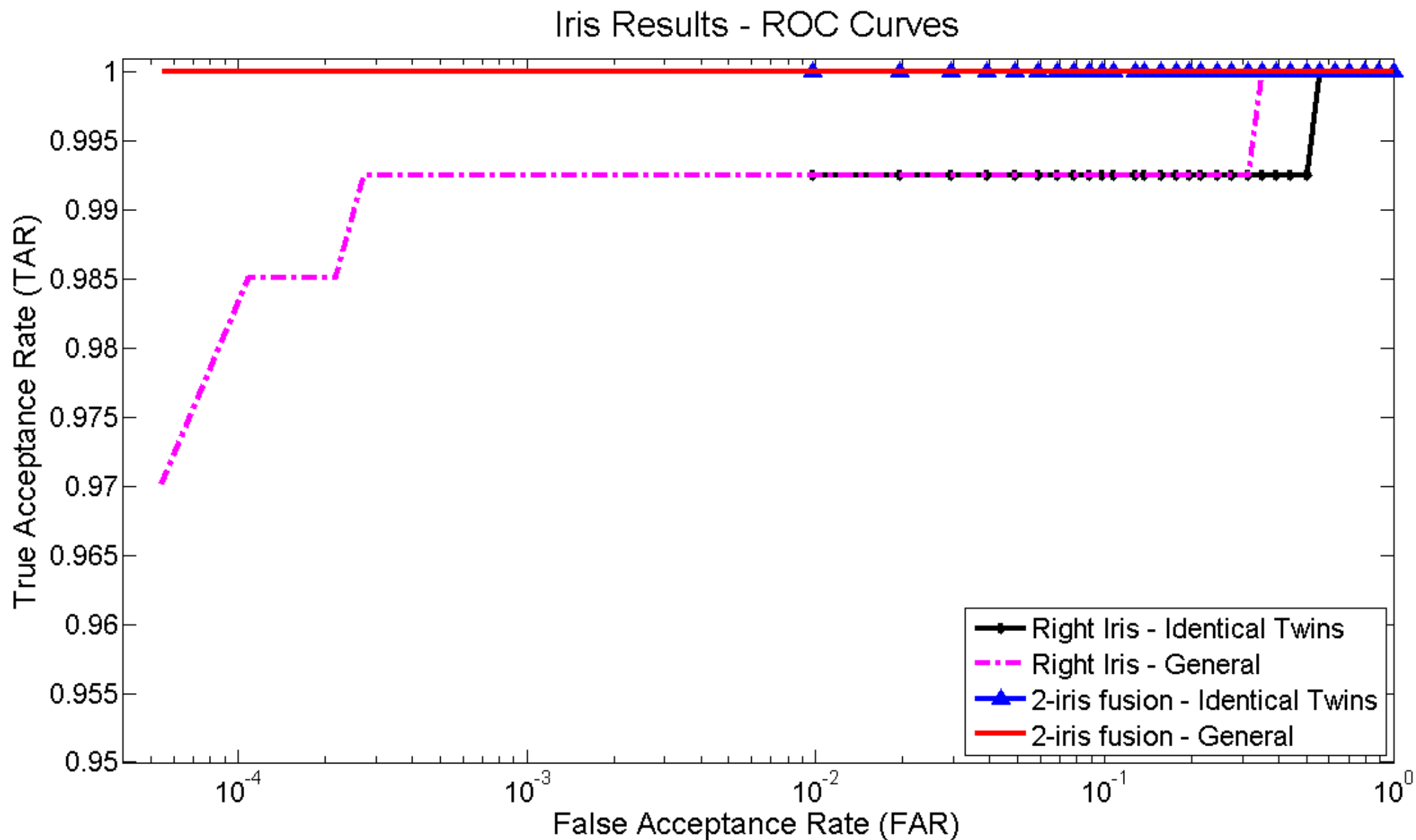
Multimodal experiments: fusion of 4 fingers, 2 irides, face + finger 4

# Experimental Results

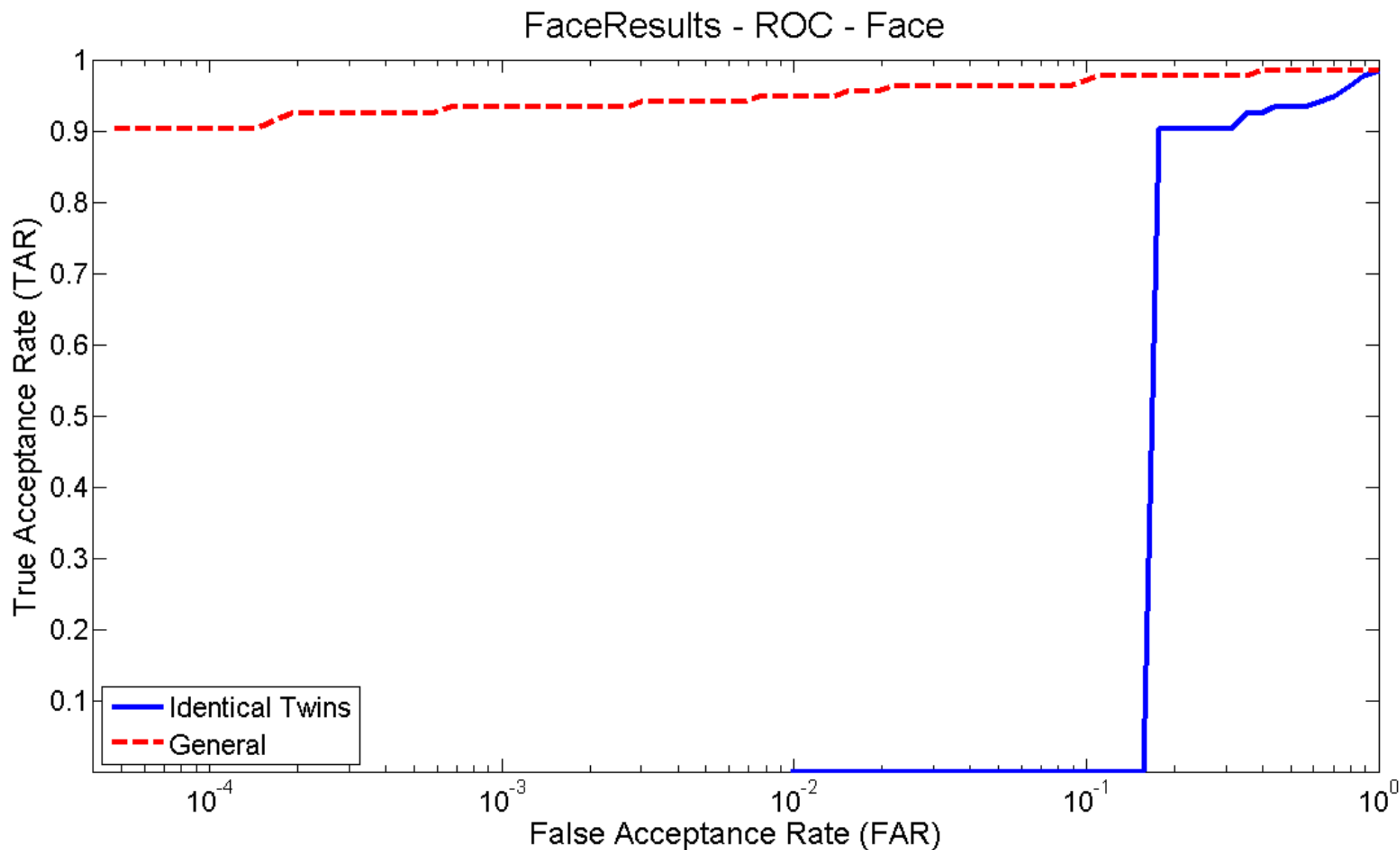




# Experimental Results



# Experimental Results



# Experimental Results

Fingerprints of **identical twins** with the highest impostor match score:

**34** for finger 4



Finger 4

Fingerprints of two **unrelated persons** with the highest impostor match score:

**53** for fingers 3 and 4



Finger 3



Finger 4

**Observation:** Average number of matched minutiae

Genuine pairs: 22 (+-9.5)

Identical twin pairs: 6.44 (+-3.97)

General impostors: 4.22 (+-2.82)

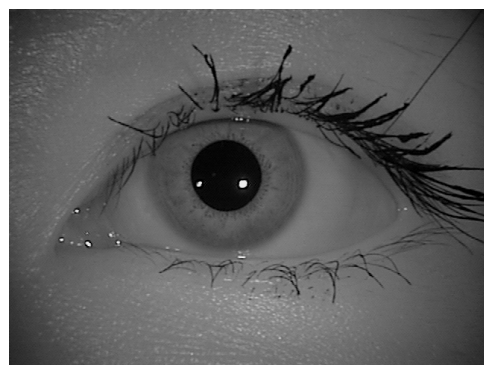
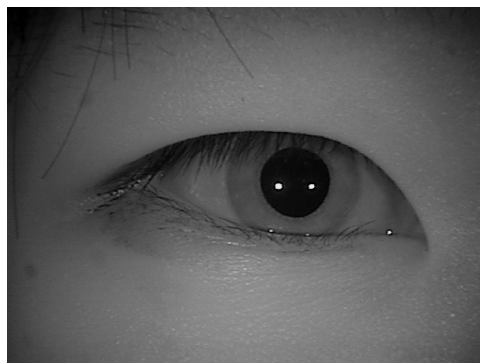
# Experimental Results

Iris of **identical twins** with the highest impostor match scores:

**0.59** for left iris and **0.58** for right iris



Left iris

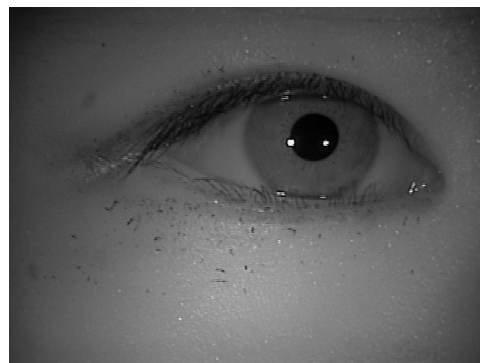


Right iris

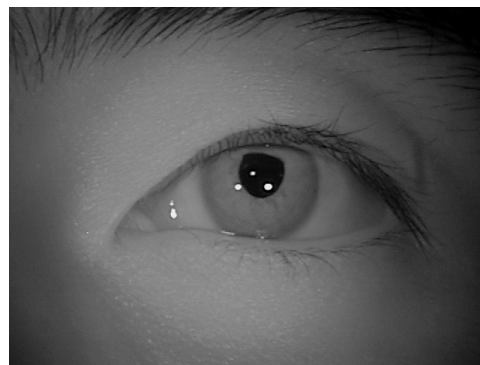
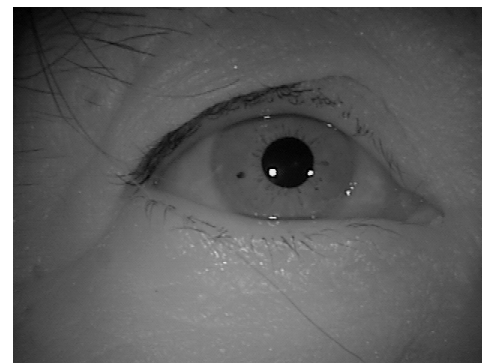


Iris of two **unrelated persons** with the highest impostor match scores:

**0.59** for left iris and **0.61** for right iris



Left iris



Right iris

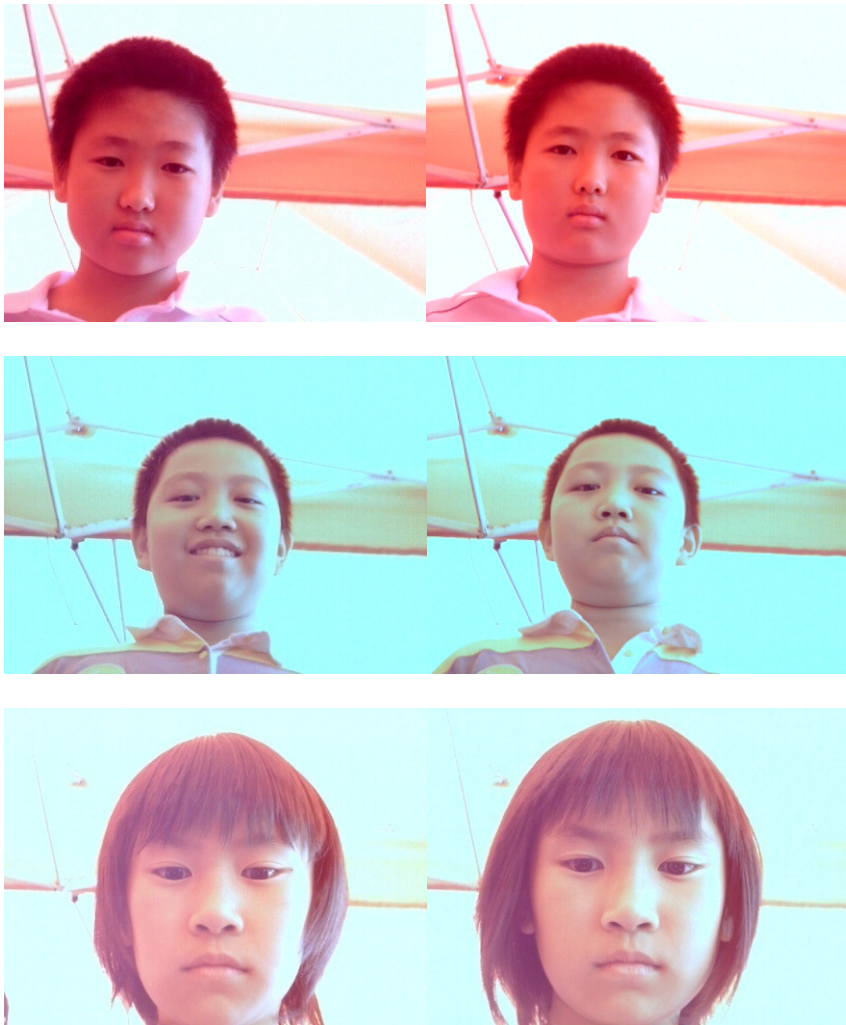




# Experimental Results

Faces of **identical twins** with the highest impostor match score:

**0.999** for face



Faces of two **unrelated persons** with the highest impostor match scores:

**0.998** for face



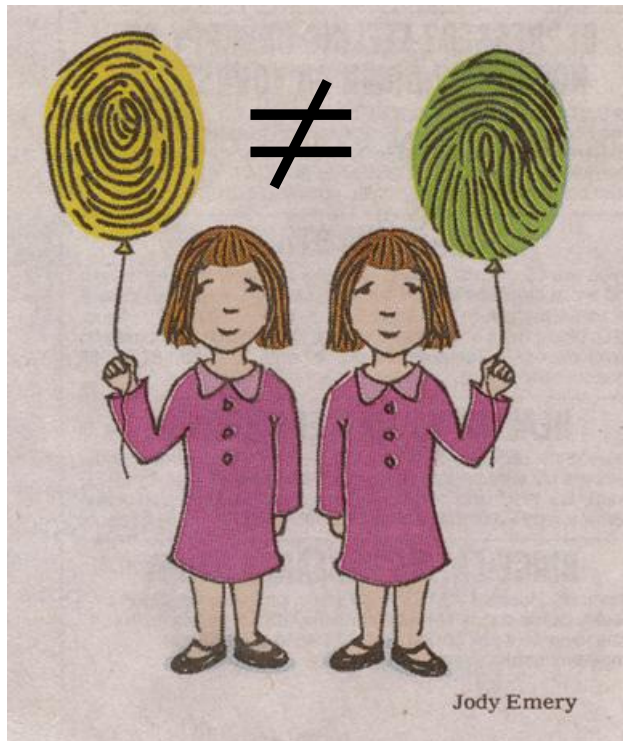
# Conclusions (Unimodal)

Can identical twins be distinguished by current biometric systems?



**Face**

Not distinguishable by current face recognition systems



**Fingerprints**

Distinguishable, although more similar

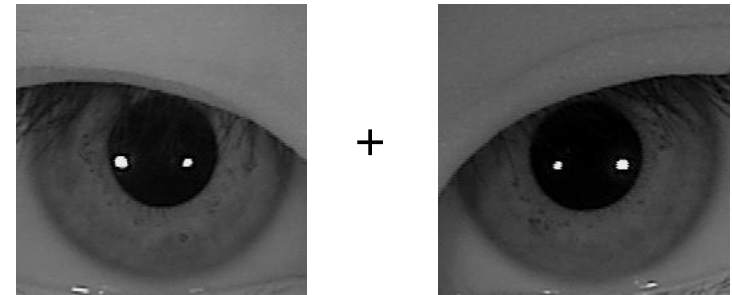


**Iris**

Distinguishable, although might be more similar

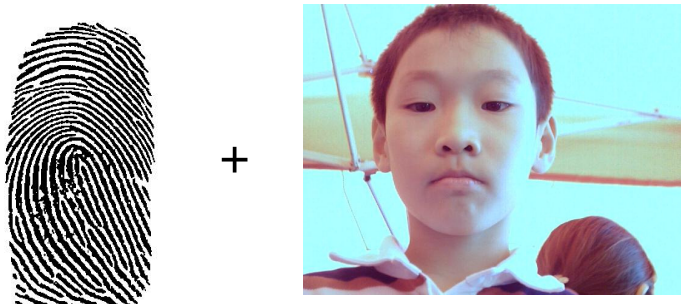
# Conclusions (Multimodal)

Can identical twins be distinguished by current biometric systems?



**4-finger or 2-iris**

Almost completely distinguishable



**One Finger + Face**

Worse than or equal to one finger alone



# Ongoing and Future work

- Analyze and compare fingerprint pattern type (whorl,..) between twins

Fingerprints of identical twin 1



Fingerprints of identical twin 2





# Ongoing and Future work

- Analyze and compare fingerprint pattern type (whorl,..) between twins

Fingerprints of  
non-identical twin 1



Fingerprints of  
non-identical twin 2

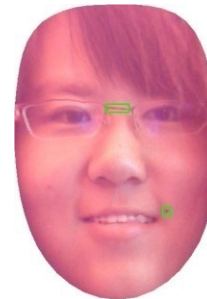
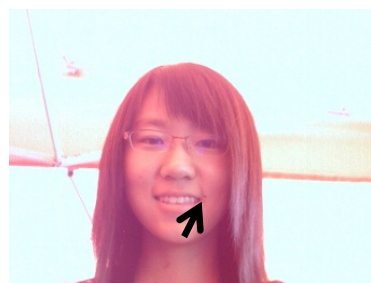
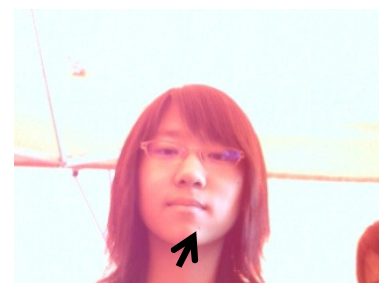


# Ongoing and Future work

- Perform experiments with a new multibiometric twin database
- Improve the performance of face recognition systems for identical twins
  - Use face marks to distinguish identical twins
  - Initial results:

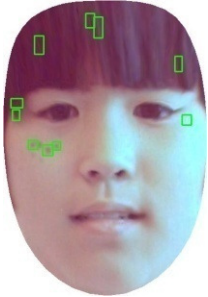
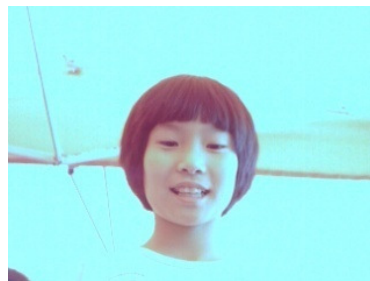
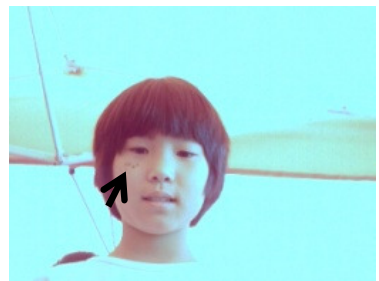
# Distinguishing Identical Twins using Facial Marks

- Fusion of FaceVACS + facial marks can sometimes help distinguish identical twins



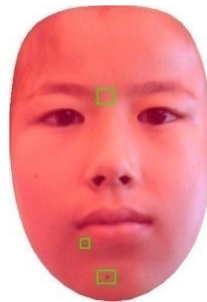
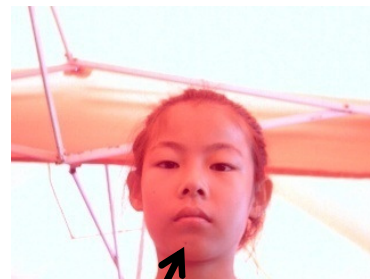
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A. K. Jain and U. Park, "Facial Marks: Soft Biometric For Face Recognition", *Proc. International Conference on Image Processing*, Nov., 2009.

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