

Secure Face Unlock: Spoof Detection on Smartphones

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Abstract—With the wide deployment of the face recognition systems in applications from deduplication to mobile device unlocking, security against the face spoofing attacks requires increased attention; such attacks can be easily launched via printed photos, video replays, and 3D masks of a face. We address the problem of face spoof detection against the print (photo) and replay (photo or video) attacks based on the analysis of image distortion (e.g., surface reflection, moiré pattern, color distortion, and shape deformation) in spoof face images (or video frames). The application domain of interest is smartphone unlock, given that the growing number of smartphones have the face unlock and mobile payment capabilities. We build an unconstrained smartphone spoof attack database (MSU USSA) containing more than 1000 subjects. Both the print and replay attacks are captured using the front and rear cameras of a Nexus 5 smartphone. We analyze the image distortion of the print and replay attacks using different: 1) intensity channels (R, G, B, and grayscale); 2) image regions (entire image, detected face, and facial component between nose and chin); and 3) feature descriptors. We develop an efficient face spoof detection system on an Android smartphone. Experimental results on the public-domain Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD, and MSU-MFSD databases, and the MSU USSA database show that the proposed approach is effective in face spoof detection for both the cross-database and intra-database testing scenarios. User studies of our Android face spoof detection system involving 20 participants show that the proposed approach works very well in real application scenarios.

Index Terms—Face antispoofing, face unlock, spoof detection on smartphone, unconstrained smartphone spoof attack database, image distortion analysis.

I. INTRODUCTION

WITH the widespread use of smartphones, biometric authentication, such as face and fingerprint recognition, is becoming increasingly popular for confirming user identity. Two of the most popular smartphone operating systems, Android and iOS, currently use face and fingerprint to authenticate users. With the release of Android 4.0

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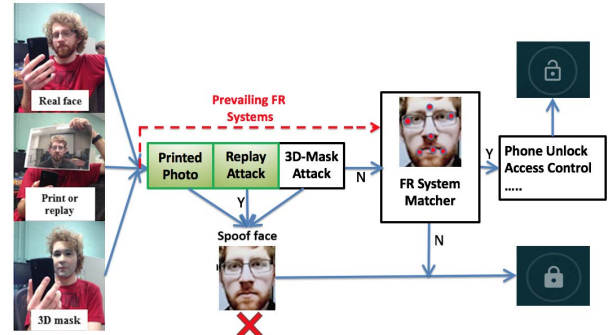


Fig. 1. A face recognition (FR) system with a spoof detection module. Many FR systems either do not currently include this module or this module does not perform effectively. This paper addresses printed photo and replay attacks.

(Ice Cream Sandwich), Android allows users to unlock their smartphone via facial recognition (FR) technology, and iOS on all iPhones released after the iPhone 5c allows users to unlock their smartphone with their fingerprint (Touch ID). As the use of biometrics for smartphone unlocking and user authentication continues to increase [2], capabilities to detect spoof biometric attacks are needed to alleviate fraud and user concerns. Spoof biometric attacks launched against smartphone authentications may allow malicious users to gain access to the smartphone, potentially leading to leakage of sensitive private data such as banking information via apps like Google Wallet and Apple Pay.

Given the prevalence of high resolution face images shared, (often publicly) through social media, it is relatively easy to obtain a face image of a user and launch a spoof attack against FR systems as these systems most often do not contain spoof detection modules (see Fig. 1). Compared to attacks against fingerprint, iris or speech recognition systems, the ubiquitous nature of image acquisition devices, such as cameras and smartphones, allows attackers to acquire facial images of a user easily and discretely [27]–[35].

A recent study on face recognition using commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) matchers shows that face matchers are fragile against face spoof attacks [20], [36]. Spoof attacks against FR systems mainly consist of (i) print attacks, (ii) replay attacks, and (iii) 3D mask attacks. Print and replay attacks are 2D face spoof attacks that can be launched using a smartphone to obtain a photograph or video of the target subject's face. By contrast, 3D face mask attacks require high resolution fabrication systems capturing the 3D shape and texture information of the target subject's face. Therefore, print and replay attacks can be more easily launched by malicious individuals than 3D mask attacks. For this reason, we focus

TABLE I
A SUMMARY OF PUBLISHED METHODS ON 2D FACE SPOOF DETECTION

Method	Strength	Limitation	State of the art performance [†]
Face motion analysis [3]–[6]	Effective for print attack	Requires multiple frames, Slow response	ZJU Eyeblink [4] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [4]: (95.7%, n/a) Idiap Replay-attack [7] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [3]: (1.25%, n/a); [5]: (0.00%, n/a) CASIA FASD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [5]: (21.75%, n/a)
Face texture analysis [8]–[12]	Relatively low computational cost and fast response	Poor generalizability, Requires face and/or landmark detection	Idiap Replay-attack (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [11]: (15.54%, 47.1%); [13]: (0.8%, n/a) [14]: (2.9%, 16.7%); [15]: (1.0%, n/a) CASIA FASD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [14]: (6.2%, 37.6%); [15]: (7.2%, 30.2% EER)
Face 3D shape or depth analysis [9], [16]–[18]	Effective for 2D attacks	Requires multiple frames or additional devices	Idiap Replay-attack [18] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [18]: (12.5%, n/a)
Image quality analysis [19]–[21]	Good generalizability, Low computational cost, Fast response time, Face and/or landmark detection not required	Image quality measures can be device dependent	Idiap Replay-attack (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [20]: (7.41%, 26.9%); [19]: (15.2%, n/a) CASIA FASD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [20]: (12.9%, 43.7%) MSU MFSD [20] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [20]: (5.82%, 22.6%)
Frequency domain analysis [10], [22], [23]	Good generalization ability, Low computational cost	Spectral features can be device dependent	Idiap Replay-attack (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [23]: (2.8%, 34.4%) CASIA FASD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [23]: (14.0%, 38.5%) UVAD [23] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [23]: (29.9%, 40.1%)
Active approach [24]	Good generalizability	Requires additional devices	Private 3D mask dataset [24] (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) [24]: (100.0%, n/a)
Multi-cue fusion [25], [26], [Proposed]	Good generalizability, Less sensitive to face and/or landmark detection errors, Whole image frame analysis	Moderate computational cost (0.21 sec. on desktop)	Idiap Replay-attack (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) Proposed: (0.0%, 3.5%)* (14.6%, 29.3%)** CASIA FASD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) Proposed: (1.67%, 2.5%)* (5.88%, 35.4%)** MSU MFSD (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) Proposed: (2.67%, 9.27%)* (8.41%, 26.7%)** MSU USSA (Intra-DB, Cross-DB) Proposed: (3.84%, 31.4%)

[†]Intra-database results for the Idiap Replay-Attack and UVAD databases are given in terms of Half Total Error Rate (HTER). HTER is defined as the average of false acceptance rate and false rejection rate. Intra-database results for the CASIA FASD, MSU MFSD and the MSU USSA databases are given in terms of Equal Error Rate (EER). For the ZJU Eyeblink and the Private 3D mask datasets, classification accuracy are reported. Cross-database results are given in terms of HTER unless otherwise specified. *Performance was reported using the proposed smartphone protocol; no reject option was used. **Performance was reported using the original intra-database protocol for each database.

on 2D face spoof attacks, such as printed photos, displayed photos, and video replays.

Significant progress has been made in biometric spoof detection technologies of individual modalities [37], [38]. Table I summarizes the state-of-the-art in face spoof detection methods. Despite this progress, face spoof detection remains a difficult problem that requires continued efforts. A number of the published methods are designed to safeguard the FR system [26] against a specific spoof detection attack, and thus lack good generalizability to different face spoof attacks and application scenarios. Additionally, they are based on databases in which the spoof videos were captured using either low resolution (*e.g.*, webcam) or very high-resolution (*e.g.*, DSLR) cameras [4], [7] (*e.g.*, the CASIA FASD and Idiap databases released in 2012). Therefore, these face spoof databases are not representative of smartphone unlock scenarios. While face spoof detection under the smartphone unlock scenarios was studied in [20], it used a database containing only 50 subjects (videos of only 35 subjects are publicly available). Additionally, results based on a face spoof detection system running on a smartphone platform were not reported.

In this paper, we study the problem of *face spoof detection on smartphones* using a large unconstrained smartphone spoof attack database, and provide a prototype face spoof detection system running on Android. This paper expands upon our preliminary work [1] in the following ways:

- Collection of a large unconstrained smartphone spoof attack database (MSU USSA) with diverse 2D face spoof attacks (printed photos, and displayed photos) from more than 1,000 subjects to replicate the real scenarios of smartphones unlock.¹
- A new feature representation method for face liveness detection by considering the complementarity between different feature cues.
- Study of reject options using IPD constraint and bezel detection to efficiently reject *easy cases* of spoof attacks.
- Verification of the conclusions drawn in [1] by using the significantly larger MSU USSA database and the inclusion of several new experiments on MSU USSA.

¹A 10k image portion of the MSU USSA database (where subjects have given approval) will be made available to interested researchers: <http://biometrics.cse.msu.edu/pubs/databases.html>.

- Promising generalization ability from intra-database to cross-database testing scenarios.²
- Implementation of the proposed method on Android smartphones, and tests in real application scenarios.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section II, we briefly review published methods, and 2D face spoof databases. We detail the analysis of image distortions in 2D spoof face images, and the proposed face spoof detection approach on smartphones in Sections III and IV, respectively. Experimental setup, protocols, and results are given in Section V. Finally, we conclude this work in Section VI.

II. RELATED WORK

In this section, we summarize published 2D face spoof detection methods in the literature, give an overview of commonly used 2D face spoof databases, and provide details of the 2D face spoof database that was collected for smartphone unlock scenarios.

A. Literature Review

As summarized in [38], studies on face spoofing detection date back over 15 years. Since then, a number of methods have been proposed for face spoofing detection under print attacks [4], [6], [8], [10], replay attacks [3], [9], [39], and 3D mask attacks [40]. Since our focus is 2D face spoof attack detection (on smartphones), we provide a brief summary and analysis of published 2D face spoof detection methods. Table I groups the published methods into six categories: (i) face motion analysis, (ii) face texture analysis, (iii) face 3D depth analysis, (iv) image quality analysis, (v) frequency domain analysis, and (vi) active methods.

Spoofing detection methods based on face motion analysis extract behavioral characteristics of the face, such as eye blink [4], and lip or head movement [3]. These methods require accurate face and landmark detection to localize the facial components. Additionally, multiple frames must be used in order to estimate the facial motions. These methods are designed to detect print attacks, and thus are not able to handle video replay attacks with facial motions.

Spoofing detection methods based on face texture analysis capture the texture differences (due to different reflection properties of live face and spoof material) between face images captured from live faces and face images captured from various spoof mediums (*e.g.*, paper and digital screen) [7], [8], [42]. These methods can perform spoof detection based on a single face image, and thus have relatively fast response. However, face texture analysis based methods may have poor generalizability when using small training sets with a limited number of subjects and spoofing scenarios.

Spoofing detection methods based on 3D depth analysis estimate the 3D depth of a face to discriminate between 3D live face and 2D spoof face [6], [9]. While live faces

are 3D objects, spoof faces presented on 2D planar medium are 2D. Thus, these methods can be quite effective to identify 2D face spoof attacks if the 3D depth information of a face can be reliably estimated. Face 3D depth analysis based methods usually rely on multiple frames to estimate the depth or 3D shape information of a face.

Spoofing detection methods based on image quality analysis utilize the image quality differences between live face images and spoof face images [19], [20], [43]. Since the spoof face images and videos are generated by recapturing live face images and videos in photographs or screens, there will be degradations of color, reflection, and blurriness in the spoof face images compared to the live face images and videos. These methods have been found to have good generalization ability to different scenarios [19]. However, studies on face spoofing detection based on image quality analysis are limited.

Frequency domain based anti-spoofing methods analyze noise signals in recaptured video to distinguish between live and spoof face access [10], [22], [23]. During the recapture of printed photos or video replays, there is a decrease in low frequency components, and an increase of high frequency components. In order to quantize these changes, the input is usually transformed into the frequency domain.

Active methods utilize additional sensors, such as near-infrared (NIR) and 3D depth to capture a face besides the 2D visual face image [24], [44]. While these methods provide better robustness against illumination and pose variations of the face, the use of additional sensors also limit their application scope, particularly in smartphone scenarios.

While many of the published methods belonging to the above five categories report favorable results for intra-database testing, their effectiveness in cross-database testing scenarios, has not been carefully evaluated. The few publications that did conduct cross-database testing tend to report poor results [11], [20], [23]. One plausible approach to improve the robustness of face spoof detection methods under cross-database testing scenarios, is to consider fusion of multiple physiological or behavioral cues [26].

B. 2D Spoof Face Databases

1) *Public-Domain Databases:* In this section, we review the commonly used public-domain 2D face spoof databases in terms of their collection process and their limitations. Additionally, we discuss the database we collected that contains diverse 2D face spoof attacks from a large number of subjects. See Table II.

The Print-attack and Replay-attack databases are both available from Idiap [36]. Live face videos of subjects were captured using the webcam on a MacBook and replay attacks were captured using a Cannon PowerShot SX 150 IS camera from the screens of iPhone 3GS and iPad I.

Different from the Print-attack and Replay-attack databases, the spoof face images in the CASIA FASD database were captured using a variety of cameras (Sony NEX-5-HD, two low-quality USB) [39].

A key limitation of these databases is that they captured spoof attacks using either low-resolution cameras (USB

²Cross-database testing involves, training on database A and testing on a different database B, collected in a different setting from database A and with different subjects. This is in contrast to the easier, but, not realistic protocol of intra-database testing where, cross-validation is used on a specific database.

TABLE II
A SUMMARY OF PUBLIC-DOMAIN 2D FACE SPOOF DATABASES

Database	# Subs.	# Images or Videos (Live, spoof)	Live face acquisition device	Spoof medium	Spoof face acquisition device	Subject race
NUAA [41]	15	(5105, 7509)	Webcam (640 × 480)	A4 paper	Webcam (640 × 480)	Asian
ZJU Eyeblick [4]	20	(80, 100)	Webcam (320 × 240)	High-quality photo	Webcam (320 × 240)	Asian
Idiap Print-attack [36]	50	(200, 200)	MacBook Webcam (320 × 240)	A4 paper	MacBook Webcam (320 × 240)	Mainly Caucasian
Idiap Replay-attack [7]	50	(200, 1000)	MacBook webcam (320 × 240)	iPad 1 (1024 × 768) iPhone 3GS (480 × 320)	Cannon PowerShot SX 150 IS (1280 × 720)	Caucasian 76%, Asian 22%, African 2%
CASIA FASD [39]	50	(200, 450)	Sony NEX-5 (1280 × 720) USB camera (640 × 480)	iPad 1 (1024 × 768) Printed photo	Sony NEX-5 (1280 × 720) Webcam (640 × 480)	Asian 100%
MSU-MFSD [20]	55	(110, 330)	Nexus 5 (720 × 480) Macbook (640 × 480)	iPad Air (2048 × 1536) iPhone 5s (1136 × 640) A3 paper	Canon 550D (1920 × 1088) iPhone 5s (1920 × 1080)	Caucasian 70%, Asian 28%, African 2%
MSU RAFS [†] [1]	55	(55, 110)	Nexus 5 (frontal: 720 × 480) (rear: 1920 × 1080)	MacBook (1280 × 800)	iPhone 6 (rear: 1920 × 1080) Nexus 5 (rear: 1920 × 1080)	Caucasian 44%, Asian 53%, African 3%
UVAD [22], [23]	404	(808, 16, 268)	Six different cameras (no mobile phone) (1366 × 768)	Seven display devices	Six different cameras (no mobile phone) (1366 × 768)	Caucasian 44%, Asian 53%, African 3%
MSU USSA (this paper) To be made public	1,140	(1,140, 9,120)	Nexus 5 (frontal: 720 × 480) (rear: 3264 × 2448) Cameras used to capture celebrity photos	MacBook (2880 × 1800) Nexus 5 (1920 × 1080) Tablet (1920 × 1200) Printed photo on 11 × 8.5 in. paper	Nexus 5 (frontal: 1280 × 960) (rear: 3264 × 2448)	Diverse Set

[†]Contains an additional 200 spoof videos, 2 videos per subject from the Replay-Attack and CASIA FASD databases.

Webcam for CASIA FASD), or DSLR cameras which are expensive. The low-quality cameras used to create the Idiap Replay-Attack and CASIA FASD databases lack autofocus capability, often leading to the capture of unsharp and low resolution videos. Modern smartphones contain high-resolution front-facing cameras (1.3-megapixels on the Nexus 5 and 8-megapixels on the HTC Desire Eye). Additionally, DSLR cameras are different compared to smartphone cameras as they come equipped with anti-aliasing filters in front of the CCD to minimize moiré patterns.³ Hence, using low-resolution or DSLR cameras does not replicate the real application scenarios of interest, namely user authentication on smartphones.

In smartphone unlock, FR systems will capture replay attacks using their built-in cameras instead of an external camera. In [20], a database named MSU Mobile Face Spoofing Database (MFSD) was collected to study the effects of using such videos or images for spoof attacks against smartphones. However, the MSU-MFSD contains only 280 video clips of photo and video attacks from 35 subjects.

2) *MSU Unconstrained Smartphone Spoof Attack (USSA) Database*: In [1], we collected a replay attack database for smartphones with 465 videos from 155 subjects. Of these 465 videos, 155 videos were live face videos, and the remaining 310 videos were spoof face videos which were captured by showing the live face videos from the Replay Attack, CASIA FASD, and MSU-MFSD databases on a MacBook screen (1280 × 800), and recapturing the face videos using the built-in rear camera of Google Nexus 5 and built-in rear camera of iPhone 6,⁴ respectively. Videos were not deliberately captured to include moiré patterns; only a single attempt was made to

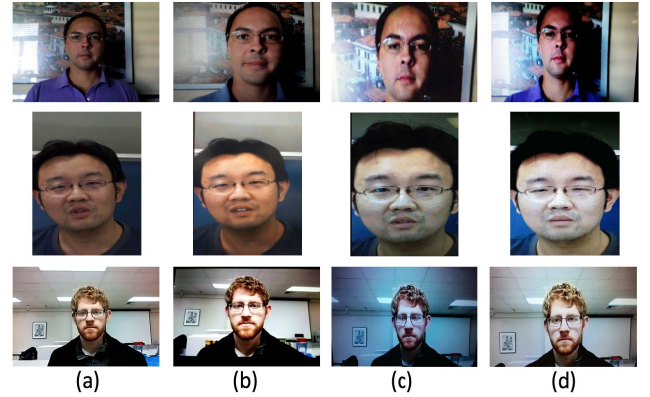


Fig. 2. Sample images of live and spoof faces from Idiap Replay-attack (top), CASIA FASD (middle), and MSU MFSD (bottom) databases. (a) Live faces; (b) Original spoof faces; (c) Spoof faces generated by Google Nexus 5 using a MacBook for replay from the RAFS database; (d) Spoof faces generated by iPhone 6 using a MacBook for replay from the RAFS database.

capture the video. Some spoof images are shown in Fig. 2. A highly desirable property of capturing spoof videos with smartphone devices is that it simulates input videos that may be presented to devices that contain FR systems, such as the Google Nexus 5. The average standoff of the smartphone camera from the screen of the MacBook was 15 cm to ensure that replay videos did not contain the bezels (edges) of the MacBook screen.

In this work, we have significantly increased the number of subjects (1,000+ subjects) as well as the number of live face and spoof images (13,000) in the MSU USSA database. Public-domain spoof databases often lack diversity in terms of background, illumination, and image quality, and thus do

³www.lifepixel.com/blog/anti-aliasing-low-pass-filter-removal

⁴Nexus 5 spec.: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nexus_5, iPhone 6 spec.: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/IPhone_6



Fig. 3. Sample images of (a) live faces, (b) spoof faces captured by the front facing camera, (c) spoof faces captured by rear facing camera on the Nexus 5. The 4 spoof images are captured using 4 spoof mediums in the following order MacBook, Nexus 5, NVIDIA Shield Tablet, and Printed Photo.

not replicate real application scenarios [45]. The MSU USSA database was specifically created to ensure that it contains diversities of environment, image quality, image acquisition device, and subject. Such a database is essential to obtain generalizable and robust anti-spoofing methods, particularly in face unlock scenarios on smartphones. By contrast, existing databases contain face images with controlled pose, illumination, and expression variations. The MSU USSA database also contains a small percentage of partial-frontal face images, as social media sites often contain such images that could be used by malicious users to spoof a FR system. Running evaluations on a large database of this size will provide statistically significant results for predicting real world performance.

Two versions of the MSU USSA database were created, a 10K (public) and a 13K (private) dataset. The 13K dataset contains images from subjects who withheld consent to share their face images with other researchers as well as images from a private database that we used to supplement the live face images (2,818 additional images in which users withheld consent). We will report a majority of the results using the public set of the MSU USSA database to allow interested researchers to replicate our findings and further improve face anti-spoofing capabilities.

To create the MSU USSA database, we used a subset (1,000 subjects) of the web faces database collected in [46]. This database contains images of celebrities taken under a variety of backgrounds, illumination conditions and resolutions. We filtered the images to retain only a single frontal face image. The other 140 subjects are from the Idiap (50), CASIA FASD (50) and the MSU MFSD (40) public databases. Thus, the new database contains color face images of 1,140 subjects, where the average resolution of the live face images is 705×865 .

In order to capture the spoof attacks, we used both the front (1280×960) and rear (3264×2448) facing cameras on the Google Nexus 5, and spoof mediums such as MacBook,



Fig. 4. Examples of spoof attacks launched using a digital screen show evidence of surface reflection. The two leftmost images show bright indoor lighting reflecting off a digital screen. The two rightmost images show the screen of a smartphone reflecting the spoof image it is capturing. Note these images are not a part of the MSU USSA database.

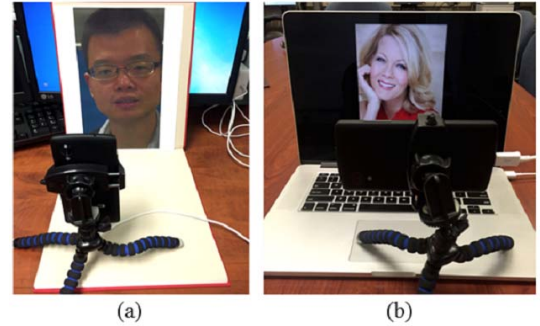


Fig. 5. Demonstration of how samples of (a) print attacks, and (b) display and replay attacks were collected, using paper and laptop screen as the spoof medium and a smartphone as an acquisition device. This set-up simulates how a user may launch an attack against a FR system.

Nexus 5, and Tablet screens (see Table II). This allows researchers to study how the quality of the spoof images affects spoof detection performance. Moreover, it allows researchers to examine the images to understand how camera quality affects image quality which in turn affects the presence of image distortion artifacts (*i.e.*, moiré patterns and reflections). Additionally, we captured the spoof attacks to minimize illumination reflections such as the ones shown in Fig. 4. Note the images shown in Fig. 4 are not from the MSU USSA database.

Given that most people have access to a laptop, tablet or smartphone, we captured replay attacks on all three spoof mediums. The spoof attacks are captured by showing the live face image on the screen of one of the spoof mediums and using both the front and rear facing cameras of the Google Nexus 5 to capture the simulated attack. This way, the public set of the MSU USSA database contains 6,840 images of replay attacks captured using different camera quality and spoof mediums.

In order to capture printed photo attacks, we printed images of all 1,140 subjects using a HP Color Laserjet CP6015xh printer (1200×600 dpi) on a matte 8.5×11 inch white paper. The live subject images were scaled to ensure the image covered as much of the paper as possible while maintaining the original image aspect ratio to minimize distortions. Additionally, we placed the photos in a manner to minimize reflection from ambient lighting inside our laboratory. Both the frontal and rear cameras of Nexus 5 were then used to capture photo attacks. This way, the public set of the MSU USSA database contains 2,280 images of printed photo attacks. Figure 5 shows our setup used to capture both printed photo attacks and replay attacks.

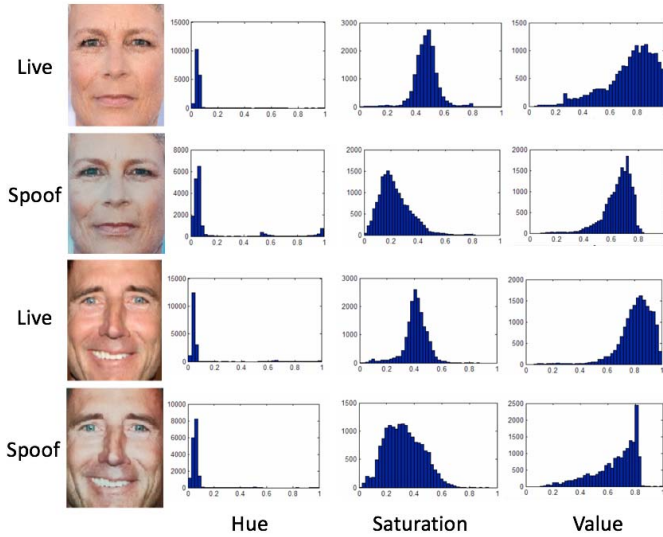


Fig. 6. Examples of color distortion in spoof attacks due to improper printing or rendering of live face images. The plots show the histogram of the image's hue, saturation and value components.

To demonstrate the utility of the collected database for face spoof detection studies, we conducted an experiment using a Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) FR system, which reported promising results in the Face Recognition Vendor Tests 2006 (FRVT).⁵ We enrolled the live face images of the 1,140 subjects into a gallery and used the eight spoof images captured for each subject (1,140 subjects) as probe images. In this experiment, at 0.01% FAR, more than 97.7% of the probe images (spoof faces) were successfully matched to their corresponding live face images. This indicates that the COTS matcher cannot effectively distinguish between the live and spoof face images in MSU USSA, and MSU USSA is realistic and helpful for studies on face spoof detection.

III. IMAGE DISTORTION ANALYSIS FOR 2D SPOOF FACE IMAGES

Different types of image distortion appear during the recapture of a face image or video, which generally include (i) surface reflection by the spoof medium, (ii) moiré patterns, (iii) color distortions, and (iv) shape deformations.

A. Spoof Medium Surface Reflection

2D face spoofing attacks are mainly launched by printing a face image or displaying a digital face image or video on a screen. Glossy photo papers and digital screens often generate specular reflections, which lead to reflection distortions in the spoof face images (see Fig. 4). Additionally, both paper and digital screens have different reflective properties than the skin of a face [21], which leads to reflectance differences between live and spoof face images.

B. Color Distortion

Color distribution may change during the capture of a face image, which leads to either reduced color diversity or color

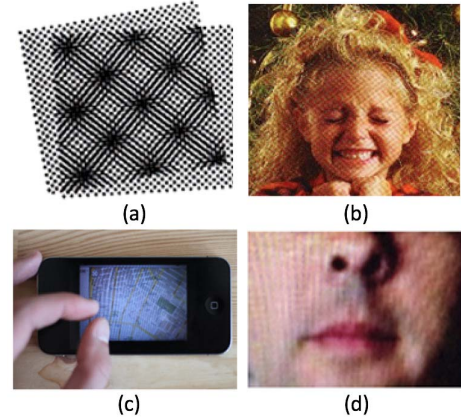


Fig. 7. Examples of moiré patterns. (a) an overlay of two patterns generates moiré patterns, (b) moiré patterns exist in color printing with halftoning, (c) moiré patterns appear while capturing the screen of digital devices, and (d) moiré patterns appeared in replay attacks in the MSU USSA database that the authors collected (We magnify the bottom portion of a face to show the moiré patterns more clearly).

cast. For example, while the color distortion of printed attacks is due to the quality of the printer and photo paper, the color distortion of replay attacks is mainly caused by the fidelity and resolution of the screen [20]. Figure 6 shows the color distortion in spoof face images from two subjects in the MSU USSA database.

C. Moiré Pattern

Moiré patterns are an undesired distortion of images caused by an overlap of digital grids [47]. Moiré patterns appear when two or more patterns are overlaid on top of each other, resulting in a third new pattern (Fig. 7 (a)).⁶ The display mediums (laptop, smartphone, and tablet screens) exhibit a naturally occurring fixed repetitive pattern created by the geometry of color elements that are used for color displays. Therefore, whenever an image of a digital screen is recorded or captured, moiré patterns will most likely present themselves due to the grid overlap between the digital screen and the digital camera. In color printing with CMYK (cyan, yellow, magenta, and black) halftoning model, moiré patterns are often inevitable (Fig. 7 (b)).⁷ Moiré patterns are also observed in screen shooting photography (Fig. 7 (c)).⁸ The fundamental reason for moiré patterns in screen shooting photography is the spatial frequency differences between the display and the acquisition device. For example, when the image (on the display of a replay device) contains repetitive details that exceed the camera resolution, moiré patterns are observed. While moiré patterns may not appear for video replays at a distance, replay attacks are typically presented close to a smartphone camera so that the face can be detected. Therefore, moiré patterns can be quite useful in face spoof detection of displayed photo and video replay attacks [43].

⁶www.ishootshows.com/2012/04/09/understanding-moire-patterns-in-digital-photography/

⁷users.ecs.soton.ac.uk/km/imaging/course/moire.html

⁸blog.ishback.com/?cat=132

⁵<http://www.nist.gov/itl/iad/ig/frvt-2006.cfm>

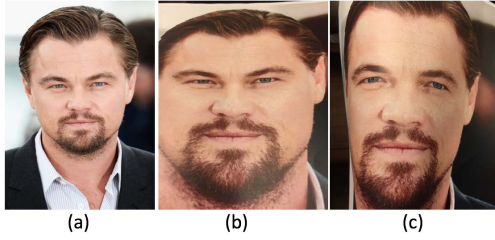


Fig. 8. Example of face shape distortion. (a) Normal face image, (b) skewed image due to holding the camera closer to the bottom portion of the image than top of the image, (c) skew caused by bending of the sides of an image.

D. Face Shape Deformation

In print attacks, the bending of the photo paper may lead to skewed face shape in the spoof images. Additionally, the viewing direction of the camera will also lead to deformation of the face shape in the spoof images. Figure 8 shows the face shape distortion in spoof face images of print attacks for one of the subjects in the MSU USSA database.

IV. 2D SPOOF FACE DETECTION ON A ANDROID

In this section, we detail the individual steps of the proposed face spoof detection method for smartphone unlock scenario.

A. Face Detection and Normalization

To detect faces on a smartphone in the input image from its camera, we used the built-in Android face detector. This detector only returns the IPD value and the mid-point of the face if detected; it does not provide coordinates of the left and right eyes. Thus, we used a scale factor between the IPD and the mid-point of a detected face to normalize the face image into an 144×120 pixel image. We observed that the Android face detector returns values that can vary greatly leading to inconsistent face cropping even in frames captured only milliseconds apart. This variability in face detection can lead to inaccurate face spoof detection. Hence, for our experiments on a desktop, we use the face detector from the PittPatt face recognition SDK.⁹

B. Representation

One popular and simple image descriptor for face images is Local Binary Patterns (LBP) [8]. LBP was later generalized to multi-scale LBP (MLBP) which has been shown to perform better than LBP, for example in [48] when matching composite sketches to face photos. This motivated us to consider MLBP features in face spoof detection. We also analyzed the SIFT (scale invariant feature transform) feature descriptor as this descriptor is largely invariant to scale, illumination, and local affine distortions [50]. Additionally, we consider a new low complexity, effective image descriptor called Locally Uniform Comparison Image Descriptor (LUCID) [49]. Since we are focusing on 2D face spoof detection which contains printed photo, displayed photo, and replayed video attacks, we also

⁹PittPatt was acquired by Google in 2011, and the SDK is no longer publicly available.

TABLE III
FEATURE DIMENSIONALITY, COMPUTATIONAL COST FOR FEATURE EXTRACTION, AND SPOOF DETECTION PERFORMANCE ON THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SETS OF THE MSU USSA DATABASE. A 5-FOLD CROSS-VALIDATION TESTING PROTOCOL IS USED. BOTH AVERAGE AND THE STANDARD DEVIATION OF EER ARE REPORTED HERE

Method	Feature dimension	Avg. time per image (s)	EER (%) (private, public)
LBP Whole [‡] Frame	4,248	.014	2.53 $\pm$ 0.49 3.69 $\pm$ 0.83
LBP* [8]	4,248	.014	4.38 $\pm$ 0.71 4.69 $\pm$ 0.67
LBP + Color Hist.*	4,349	.044	4.09 $\pm$ 0.37 4.56 $\pm$ 0.25
LBP + Color Moment*	4,263	.021	3.51 $\pm$ 0.30 3.84 $\pm$ 0.84
MLBP* [48]	11,328	.072	4.65 $\pm$ 0.38 5.58 $\pm$ 0.85
LUCID* [49]	51,840	.021	15.18 $\pm$ 0.86 16.67 $\pm$ 1.16
SIFT* [50]	34,560	.303	13.94 $\pm$ 0.59 17.03 $\pm$ 0.89
Color Hist.*	101	.031	30.65 $\pm$ 0.88 37.13 $\pm$ 2.52
Specularity*	3	.112	31.10 $\pm$ 0.85 46.63 $\pm$ 1.68
Blurriness*	1	.007	48.07 $\pm$ 1.56 51.15 $\pm$ 1.50
Color Moment*	15	.008	11.25 $\pm$ 0.86 9.45 $\pm$ 1.43
Image Quality [†] Analysis* [20]	121	.159	10.73 $\pm$ 0.53 9.21 $\pm$ 1.00

[‡]The whole frame is resized to the cropped face image (144×120). *Only facial region is used for feature extraction. [†]Feature level fusion of color histogram, specularity, blurriness, and color moment as used in [20]. The time is profiled on a desktop with an Intel Core 2 quad 3.0 GHz CPU and 8GB RAM.

chose to use some feature representation methods that work for both single face image and multiple video frames. Table III provides a summary of various feature extraction methods that we considered.

Given the strengths and limitations of individual representation methods (Table I), we choose our feature representation by considering the complementarity between different cues. For example, the color moments based methods depend upon how the image was presented to the FR system when conducting a spoof attack. A digital screen such as a laptop or a smartphone can display millions of colors; thus the color diversity in a spoof face image might be very similar to a live face image. However, the color diversity of a photo is greatly reduced, therefore this feature might be better suited to handle printed photo attacks. Similarly, blurriness difference exists between live face images and printed photo attacks. Thus, we hypothesized that integrating texture features and image quality features would achieve robust spoof detection.

Given the performance of individual features and requirement of a fast-response spoof detection system on smartphones, we chose to use a fusion of LBP (effective for face texture analysis) and color moments (effective for image quality analysis). Color moments tend to highlight the differences in color distribution in live face images compared to spoof

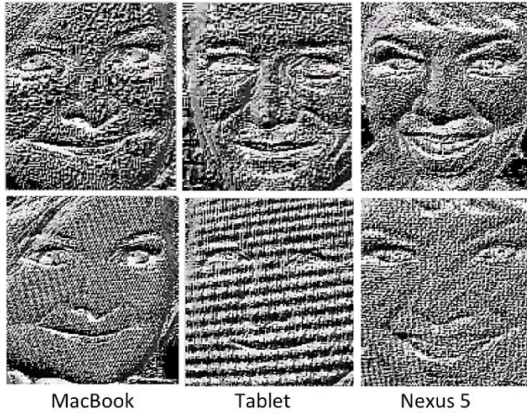


Fig. 9. The top row shows the LBP representation of three different live subjects. The bottom row shows the LBP representation of the spoof faces of the same subjects when displayed on a digital screen.

attacks. To calculate these color moments, we first convert an RGB image into the HSV (Hue, Saturation, and Value) space and then compute the mean, deviation and skewness of each channel [20]. To extract the face texture features, we calculate $LBP_{8,1}$, with parameter values $P = 8$, and $R = 1$, by dividing the image into 32×32 patches with 16 pixels overlap. Parameter P defines the quantization of the angular space and parameter R defines the spatial resolution of the operator (radius). The LBP features from individual patches are concatenated together to construct a feature vector with 4,248 dimensions. As shown in Fig. 9, the LBP feature descriptor can capture patterns that appear in spoof imagery quite effectively.

The proposed complementary feature representation is effective in detecting individual image distortion artifacts in spoof face images (summarized in Section III), particularly under cross-database testing scenarios. Specifically, while texture analysis of the proposed approach is effective in capturing surface reflection, moiré pattern, and shape deformation, image quality analysis of the proposed approach is effective in capturing color distortion and surface reflection. Additionally, this 4,263-dimensional feature vector can be computed very efficiently, 0.021 sec. per face image, on average (about 47 FPS). Reported times are profiled with a Matlab implementation on a Windows 7 platform with Intel Core 2 quad 3.0 GHz CPU and 8GB RAM.

While the previous work in [20] also studied image quality features for spoof detection, in this work we propose a complementary feature representation by considering both image quality and face texture features. Such a representation leads to more robust performance on the challenging scenarios (such as the CASIA FASD database). Additionally, we build a large face spoof database with over than 1,000 subjects and 13,000 images for robust training of spoof detector and evaluation.

C. Multi-Frame Voting

We perform face spoof detection on smartphones by capturing a sequence of three face image frames. We enforce a 200 millisecond separation between the successive image captures to allow for the motion of a subject's hand holding the device to introduce subtle changes in the images captured.

With the face texture and image quality features, we train a SVM classifier with an RBF kernel (using optimized parameters) to distinguish between live and spoof faces.¹⁰ If two or more frames within the three frames in a sequence are classified as live faces, then this sequence is classified as live (majority voting), otherwise it is classified as spoof. Using input from multiple frames allows us to stabilize the decisions. While more frames may further improve the performance, we use three frames to ensure the proposed approach can run efficiently on smartphones.¹¹

D. Reject Option

We observed that most malicious users tend to hold the spoof medium (smartphone or printed photo) at a certain distance to a smartphone camera when they are trying to spoof FR systems. They do this so that high-quality face images can be captured. Additionally, to hide the evidence of a spoof attack (bezels of a digital device and boundary of a printed photo), malicious users may hold the spoof medium as close as possible to the camera. An experiment conducted on Nexus 5 by 10 subjects validated this tendentiousness. These observations motivated us to utilize a threshold on IPD to reject an image.

In order to find an acceptable range of IPD, we conducted experiments using 20 subjects, where we asked the users to take 10 pictures of themselves using a Google Nexus 5. Subjects that were used for this study had arms of varying lengths. The subjects were instructed to hold a smartphone as they would during normal usage and to capture a number of selfie pictures. Using these 200 images, we determined the typical IPD values under normal smartphone use. The average IPD of live faces (captured by the front facing camera of a smartphone) is $\mu_{IPD} = 28.8\%$ of the image width (720 pixels), and the standard deviation of IPD is $\sigma_{IPD} = 3.6\%$ of image width. Based on these statistics, we reject faces that are either too small (faces that are very far from the smartphone camera) or too large (faces that are very close to the smartphone camera) by using

$$r_{IPD}(d, a) = |d - \mu_{IPD}| \leq a \cdot \sigma_{IPD}, \quad (1)$$

By setting $a = 2$, about 95% of the input face images to the smartphone camera are accepted and submitted to the spoof detection system.

Additionally, we define another reject option based on the detection of bezels of the spoof medium being used. This is done by detecting black stripes along the left and right sides (bezels) of the image as shown in Fig. 3, when the whole image is used. These stripes quickly allow us to detect spoof attacks, as these black stripes will only appear on digital screens such as on laptops, smartphones and tablets.

The bezel detection algorithm looks for areas in which the pixel intensity values remain fairly consistent along the top, bottom, right, and left edges of an image. Bezels tend to

¹⁰LIBSVM is used: www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libsvm.

¹¹We also tried the score level fusion of all the frames, but it gives worse performance than the proposed voting scheme. A possible reason is the presence of abrupt changes in decision scores between successive frames.

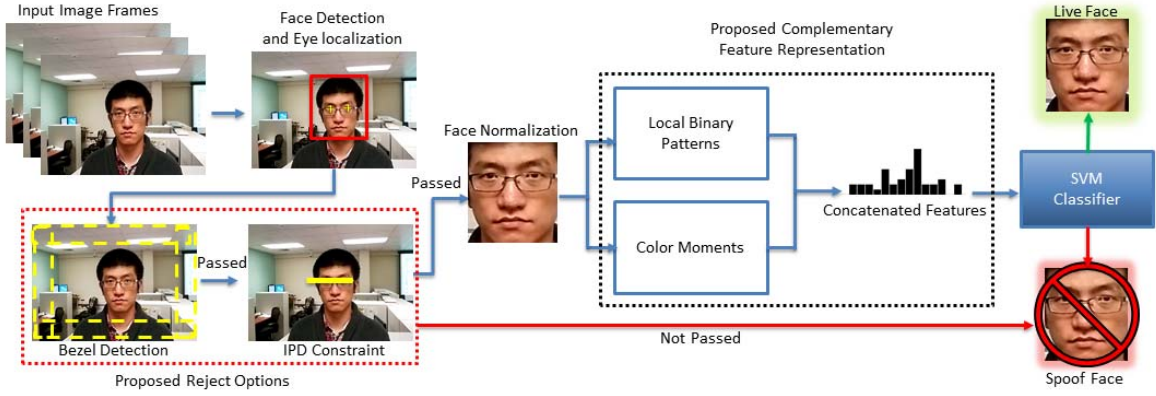


Fig. 10. The proposed spoof detection method with reject options and complementary feature representation (face texture: LBP, and image quality: Color Moments). An input image frame will be skipped, if face detection fails.

be uniform in color (black) along the borders and thus the pixel intensity values remain fairly consistent. On the other hand, in live subject images, the pixel intensity values in the background tend to vary significantly. We analyze columns of 60 consecutive pixels for bezel detection for the left and right side of an image and rows of 50 pixels for the top and bottom of an image given a normalized image of 144×120 pixels. We iteratively analyze up to 10 different areas by moving the areas in question closer to the center by 3 pixels at a time until we reach a max offset of 30 pixels from the edge. The system will report a bezel detection if any of these areas satisfy the following constraint

$$t(\mu, \sigma) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mu < 5, \sigma < 5 \\ 1 & \text{if } \mu > 220, \sigma < 5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where μ and σ are defined as the average pixel intensity value and the standard deviation for the area in question. The parameter values were determined empirically based on the performance on individual scenarios.

Biometric systems with reject options are not new [51], but studies of reject options for face spoof detection are limited. Using the two reject options described above greatly helps in detecting spoof attacks using minimal processing time. The combination of restricting the IPD of a subject and detecting the bezels of an input image reduces the number of images that are processed using the proposed spoof detection method. This is due to the fact that when replay attacks are fabricated, the restriction on the IPD leads to capture of images that often contain the bezels of the spoof medium. Thus, the reject options help in reducing the number of false accepts in our system. Moreover, due to the update to Face Unlock with the release of Android 5.0, users no longer can view what the FR system is capturing. Therefore, malicious users no longer can ensure input to a FR system is free of any bezels.

It should be noted that printed photo attacks may evade the bezel detection if a malicious user cuts the image to remove the bezels. However, the restriction of the IPD may still help detect the presence of a printed-photo attack. The goal is to reject the “easy cases” of spoof attacks using minimal processing

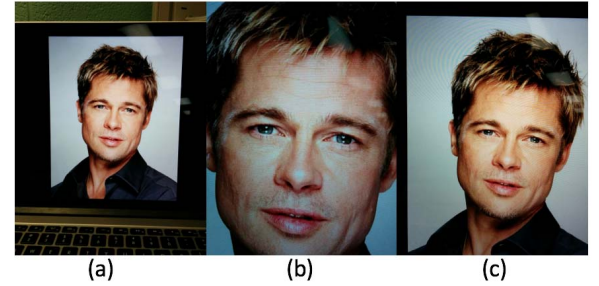


Fig. 11. Examples of inputs that were rejected using the proposed reject option: (a) IPD value below the lower threshold, (b) IPD value above the upper threshold, and (c) detected bezels along the top and left side of input image.

time. Figure 10 shows the system diagram of the proposed method and how the reject option fits into our overall spoof face detection system. Figure 11 shows a couple of examples of input face images that are rejected by the proposed method.

E. Prototype System on a Smartphone

We implement a prototype system of the proposed approach on a Nexus 5 with API level-21 support from Android v5.1. A minor change over the proposed method in the prototype system on desktop is that now we use Android face detector instead of the PittPatt face detector. This necessitated a retraining of our face spoof detection model by utilizing the Android face detector to detect individual faces in the training dataset, and retraining the face spoof detector using the same method described in Sections IV.B-IV.D.

V. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

We perform face spoof detection experiments using the MSU USSA database, and the Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD, MSU-MFSD and RAFS spoof face databases. We study the influences of a number of factors (*e.g.*, image acquisition device, image region, IPD, and database size) to the proposed face spoof detection approach. The proposed approach is compared with state of the art methods in both cross-database and intra-database testing scenarios. Besides

TABLE IV
PERFORMANCE OF FACE SPOOF DETECTION USING FACE
IMAGES CAPTURED WITH FRONT AND REAR
CAMERAS OF A NEXUS 5 PHONE[†]

Training Set	Testing Set	FAR (%)	FRR (%)	HTER (%)
Rear Camera	Front Camera	67.80	0.44	34.14 $\pm$ 1.46
Front Camera	Rear Camera	46.54	1.30	23.92 $\pm$ 1.79
Rear Camera	Rear Camera	7.83	0.44	4.14 $\pm$ 0.55
Front Camera	Front Camera	9.31	1.30	5.31 $\pm$ 0.51

[†]A five-fold cross-validation protocol is used. Rear Camera signifies spoof image captured by the rear facing camera on the Nexus 5 and the Front Camera signifies spoof images captured by the front facing camera. FRR is the false rejection rate of live face images, and FAR is the false acceptance rate of spoof face images.

performing evaluations using the original testing protocol of each database, we also design a protocol for the scenario of face unlock on smartphones. The subject IDs used in each fold of the designed five-fold subject-exclusive cross validation protocol for the MSU USSA database will be included in our public release. Unless otherwise stated, the experiments are conducted using the public set of the MSU USSA database.

A. Influence of Image Acquisition Device

Table IV shows the effects on face spoof detection when cameras of different specifications are used to capture the training and testing face images. When face images from the training and testing sets are captured using cameras of different specifications, the HTER is larger than the HTER when the training and testing face images are captured using the same camera. See Table IV. This performance gap is mainly due to the fact that moiré patterns do not appear when the frontal facing camera is used as it lacks autofocus capabilities.¹² Hence, this leads to a dramatic increase in the FAR while maintaining the FRR. To close this performance gap, the training set used to learn face spoof detection models should include a wide variety of image acquisition devices for both live and spoof face images. Therefore, the MSU USSA database should help to learn better face spoof detection models, as it contains both live and spoof face images captured using several different cameras.

B. Influence of Different Image Regions

We study the effect of different image regions (*i.e.* whole image, detected face image, and bottom half of a face shown in Fig. 12) on spoof detection performance using the MSU USSA database (see Fig. 13). To our surprise, at 0.01% FAR the performance when using the whole image to train face spoof detection models is better than when using the detected face region. This result seems to be counter to the prevailing wisdom that the background area of a face contains noise which may degrade performance. However, after further examination, we realize that the trained model is tuned to detect the black stripes along the left and right sides (bezels) of the image, when the whole image is used as

¹²Most smartphones being released now have autofocus capabilities in the front camera as well (HTC Desire Eye, ZTE Blade S7).

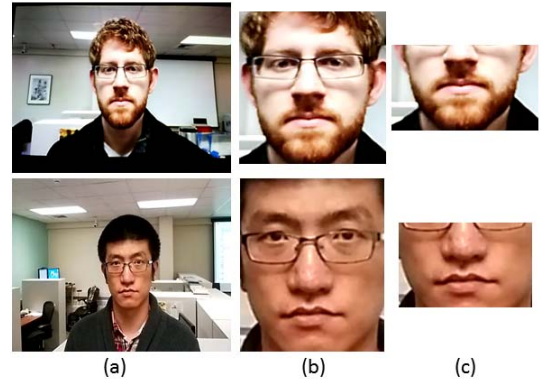


Fig. 12. Examples of three different image regions (of two different subjects) that are used for face spoof detection analysis: (a) the whole video frame, (b) the detected face image, and (c) the bottom half of the face image.

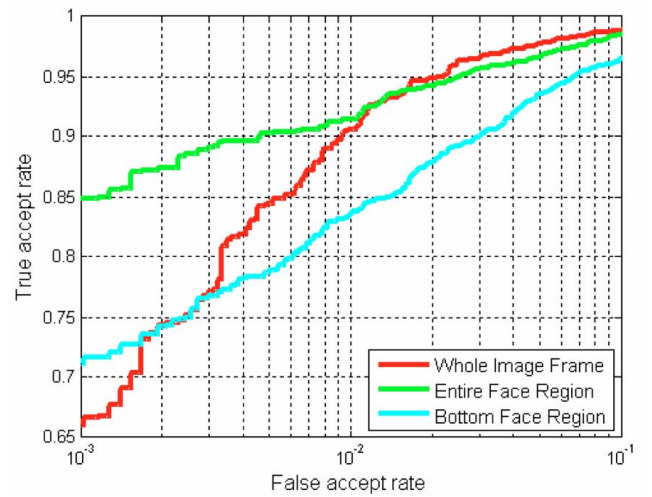


Fig. 13. Face spoof detection performance on the MSU USSA database using different regions of the input image (whole image frame, the detected face region, and the bottom half of the face image).

mentioned in Section IV.D. Thus, when we consider the whole image, only images that did not contain any black stripes along the edges were misclassified. Therefore, face spoof detection models specifically trained with whole images can efficiently detect printed photo and replayed video attacks, which often have black stripes due to the limited sizes of the photograph paper and screen. However, in more challenging scenarios, *e.g.*, when no black stripes appear in spoof face images (particularly when a malicious user intentionally prevents the paper or screen boundary appearing in the camera's field of view), experiments in [1] showed that using the detected facial region provides better performance than using the whole image.

C. Influence of Color Channel

We analyze the performance of the proposed face spoof detection method by using LBP features extracted from the grayscale, red, green and blue channels of the detected face images from the MSU USSA database (see Fig. 14). We only extracted LBP features as the color moment features require an RGB image. Figure 15 shows that different color channels highlight varying amounts of texture in an image, hence

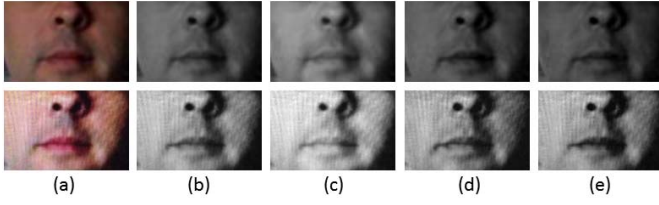


Fig. 14. Examples of live face images (top row) and spoof face images (bottom row) for one subject in the Idiap database shown using the (a) RGB image, (b) grayscale image, (c) red channel, (d) green channel, and (e) blue channel, respectively.

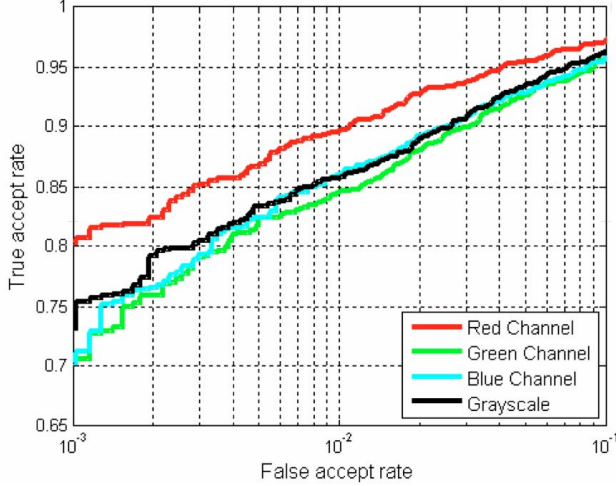


Fig. 15. Performance of face spoof detection using different color channels (red, green, blue and grayscale) on the MSU USSA database.



Fig. 16. Example of normalized face images with different IPDs: (a) 70 pixels, (b) 60 pixels, (c) 50 pixels, and (d) 40 pixels.

leading to performance differences. The red channel gives better performance than the other color channels. Apparently, texture component that can distinguish between live and spoof faces has higher contrast in the red channel of a face image.

D. Influence of IPD

Given that most published methods extract features from the detected facial region, we analyze how the IPD affects the face spoof detection performance on the MSU USSA database. Given the cropped face images of a fixed size (144×120), we vary the cropping of the facial region by altering the IPD (*i.e.* 40, 50, 60 and 70 pixels). Figure 16 shows the normalized face image of a subject when cropping images using different IPD. As shown by the ROC curves in Fig. 17, using an IPD of 60 or 70 pixels when cropping a face leads to better performance than using an IPD of 40 or 50. This is due to the fact that cropping a face to have an IPD of 60 or 70 pixels removes most of the background area while retaining

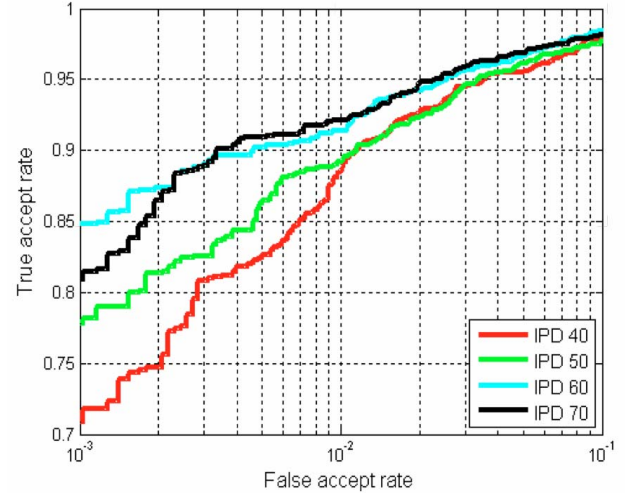


Fig. 17. Performance of face spoof detection using face images with different IPD values (40, 50, 60, and 70 pixels) on the MSU USSA database.

TABLE V

PERFORMANCE OF CROSS-DATABASE TESTING ON THE Idiap REPLAY-ATTACK, CASIA FASD, AND MSU-MFSD DATABASES USING THE MSU USSA DATABASE FOR TRAINING, AND THE SMARTPHONE PROTOCOL. THE TABLE SHOWS HOW THE VARYING TRAINING SET SIZE OF THE MSU USSA DATABASE (1K, 2K, 4K, 6K, AND 8K (ALL) FACE IMAGES) AFFECTS FACE SPOOF DETECTION PERFORMANCE. PERFORMANCE IS REPORTED IN TERMS OF HTER

Database	1K	2K	4K	6K	8K (All)
MSU-MFSD	27.36%	17.18%	13.09%	10.27%	9.27%
Idiap	20.90%	13.70%	10.70%	5.50%	3.50%
Replay Attack					
CASIA FASD	11.90%	6.20%	3.10%	2.50%	2.00%

as large of the facial region as possible. Removing the background eliminates the background clutter from a normalized face image while a large facial region retains more distinctive features for classification of live and spoof face images. When reporting results for all other experiments, we normalize faces images to an IPD of 60 pixels as using an IPD of 60 pixels obtains a higher true accept rate at low false accept rates.

E. Influence of Database Size

Most of the available public domain face spoof databases contain no more than 50 subjects. Therefore, we study how the number of subjects in the training set affects spoof detection performance using the MSU USSA database. Table V shows that using a larger training set from the MSU USSA database significantly improves the cross-database performance under the smartphone protocol when testing on the Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD and MSU-MFSD databases. When using only 1,000 spoof images to train our classifier, the spoof detection performance significantly degrades compared to when we used all 8,000 spoof images. In fact, as we use more and more spoof images to train the SVM classifier, the performance keeps increasing. On the public-domain databases such as Idiap replay-attack and CASIA FASD, we also noticed such trend that utilizing more frames from each video for training leads to better cross-database performance on a completely

different database. The above results show that increasing the number of training face images to cover more diversities, from individual subjects to image acquisition devices, helps to learn more robust classifiers. Thus, larger databases such as the MSU USSA database will be very helpful in advancing solutions to the face spoof detection problem.

F. Intra-Database Testing

We evaluate the proposed approach under the intra-database testing scenarios on the newly created MSU USSA, Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD, and the MSU-MFSD databases. Example images of subjects from these databases are shown in Fig. 2. We perform these tests using the protocols specified in [7], [20], and [39] as well as a protocol we define to simulate smartphone spoof attacks. In order to make these databases more compatible to spoof attacks on smartphones, we used the spoof videos generated for the Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD and MSU-MFSD databases from the RAFS database (smartphone protocol). The RAFS database recaptured the spoof videos for these three databases using a smartphone compared to the low resolution webcams and DSLR cameras used in the original spoof videos. Note, we did not leverage the reject option for any of these databases, as these databases were collected in a controlled manner to limit bezels in the videos and constraint the IPD.

On the Idiap Replay-Attack database using the original protocol, the proposed approach achieves 14.6% HTER which is larger than [20] (7.41%) and [14] (2.9%) but lower than [19] (15.2%). On the CASIA FASD database using the original protocol, the proposed approach achieves 5.88% EER, which is smaller than the EER reported in several other publications (6.20% [14], 7.2% [15], 12.9% [20], 14.0% [23]). On the MSU-MFSD using the original protocol, the proposed approach achieves 8.41% EER which is slightly larger than the approach in [20] (5.82%). However, under the smartphone protocol for face unlock, the proposed approach achieves very promising results (0% HTER on Idiap Replay-Attack, 1.67% EER on CASIA FASD, and 2.67% EER on MSU-MFSD databases). In all these experiments, the proposed method, achieves comparable performance to the state of the art methods under the original testing protocols of Idiap Replay-Attack, CASIA FASD, and MSU-MFSD databases but achieves much better performance using the smartphone protocol. The main reason for the difference in performance under the two protocols is that discriminative cues (moiré patterns, color diversity, etc.) between live and spoof subject videos are more prevalent in spoof videos captured by smartphones; DSLR cameras contain advance features (specialized lens, anti-aliasing filters) to normalize such image distortions. Thus, spoof videos in the smartphone protocol more closely represent input that a face unlock system on a smartphone would receive compared to DSLR cameras.

The protocol we used for intra-database testing on the MSU USSA database was a subject-exclusive five-fold cross validation, where the subjects were randomly split into 5 folds. We will share the subjects' ID list used in each fold of the 5-fold protocol so that interested researchers can replicate our

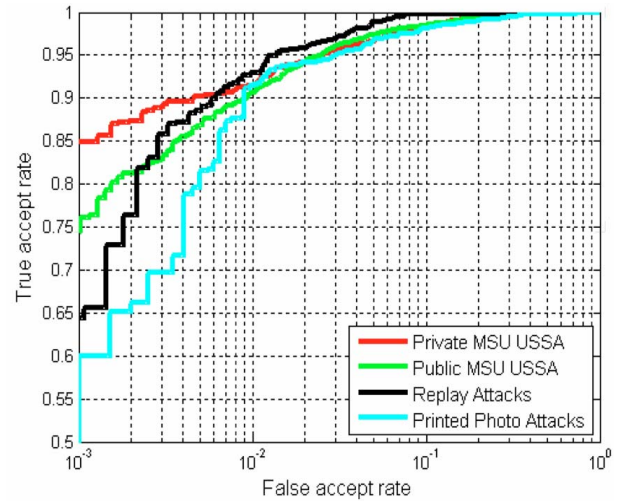


Fig. 18. Performance of the proposed face spoof detection approach on different subsets of the MSU USSA database: (i) private subset, (ii) public subset, (iii) replay attacks in the public subset, and (iv) printed photos in the public subset.

results. As shown in Table III, the proposed method achieved EER of 3.51% and 3.84% on the private and public sets, respectively. The ROC curves for these tests are shown in Fig. 18. Additionally, the proposed approach achieved EER of 2.87% and 4.06% for photos displayed on screen (replay attack) and photos printed on paper, respectively, when using the public set of the MSU USSA database. The results show that these two types of photo attacks can be detected with similar accuracies. The ROC curve for this test is also shown in Fig. 18.

G. Cross-Database Testing

It is now generally accepted that intra-database testing (where training and testing images, while distinct, are captured in the same environment and possibly of the same subjects) does not represent real world scenarios, and it lacks generalization ability [11]. Therefore, we also evaluated the proposed approach under cross-database testing scenarios. The cross-database protocol performance is evaluated by training an anti-spoofing method on database A and testing it on a different database B. We used the public set of MSU USSA database to train a face spoof detection model based on the proposed method and then test it on the MSU-MFSD, Replay-Attack and CASIA FASD databases based on the smartphone protocol. To avoid any bias, we removed the overlapping subjects (40 from MSU-MFSD, 50 from Replay-Attack, and 50 from CASIA FASD) that appear in both the MSU USSA database and the testing databases. As shown in Table V, the proposed approach achieves 9.27%, 3.50%, and 2.00% HTERs on the MSU-MFSD, Idiap Replay-Attack and CASIA FASD databases, respectively, using the smartphone protocol. These results support the proposed claim that our method has good generalization ability as it reports fairly low HTERs in the challenging cross-database testing protocol. Additionally, this underscores the fact that our method can differentiate live

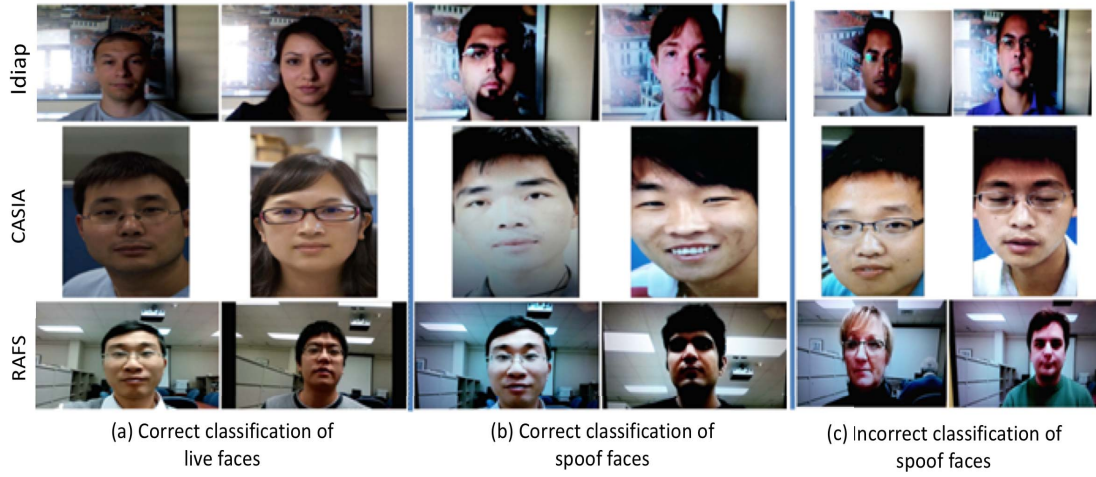


Fig. 19. Examples of correct (a, b) and incorrect (c) classifications by the proposed approach in cross-database testing on the Idiap Replay-Attack (top row), CASIA FASD (middle row), and MSU MFSD (bottom row) databases.

TABLE VI

BEZEL DETECTION PERFORMANCE ON NINE DISTINCT IMAGE SETS IN THE MSU USSA DATABASE. THIS TABLE SHOWS THE PERCENTAGE OF IMAGES IN WHICH THE PROPOSED BEZEL DETECTOR DETECTED A BEZEL. FRONT AND REAR SIGNIFY THE CAMERA OF THE NEXUS 5 USED TO CAPTURE THE SPOOF IMAGES ON THE SPECIFIED SPOOF MEDIUM

Image Set	Percentage of Images
Live	12.3%
Front MacBook	86.5%
Rear MacBook	83.9%
Front Nexus	95.0%
Rear Nexus	88.7%
Front Tablet	99.9%
Rear Tablet	82.6%
Front Printed Photo	25.6%
Rear Printed Photo	53.6%

subject images vs. spoof images using image quality features such as moiré patterns and color moments.

Examples of correct classifications and misclassifications by the proposed approach on cross-database testing are shown in Fig. 19. No examples of false reject of live face images are reported by the proposed approach because in all three experiments, the false reject rate is 0. We find that many of the errors can be attributed to poor image quality such as over saturation of images and color distribution which are not represented in our training dataset. Additionally, some of the errors are caused by motion blur and incorrect face cropping due to dark skin.

In Table I, we also provide the best cross-database performance achieved on the MSU-MFSD, Idiap Replay-Attack, and CASIA FASD databases utilizing the original protocol for the databases (original spoof videos), where we trained a model using one of the three databases and tested the model on the other two databases. Under this protocol, the cross-database spoof detection performance degrades (26.7% vs. 9.27% HTER on MSU-MFSD, 29.3% vs. 3.50% HTER on Idiap Replay Attack and 35.4% vs. 2.00% HTER on CASIA FASD). However, as we summarized in Section II.B, these



Fig. 20. Examples of incorrect (a) and correct (b, c) bezel detection by the proposed algorithm on the MSU-USSA database. (a) Misclassifications as these two images were captured in professional settings using black or white backgrounds, (b) correct bezel detection in replay attacks, and (c) correct bezel detection in printed photo attacks.

databases (captured using webcam or DSLR) do not replicate smartphone unlock scenarios. Thus, we want to emphasize the performance of the smartphone protocol as the application of interest in this paper is spoof detection for smartphones.

H. Bezel Detection Performance

We evaluated the performance of our bezel detection algorithm on the MSU USSA database. Table VI shows the results of our bezel detector on the 9-image sets in the database (1 live face image set and 8 spoof face image sets). The reason why 12.3% of live face images are detected to have a bezel is because many of these images were captured against a pure white or black background using professional grade cameras as shown in Fig. 20(a). When we removed such images from the live image set, only 1.4% of live face images had a falsely detected bezel. Moreover, in Section V.I we show that our bezel detector has a low (but non-zero) FAR when implemented on a smartphone.

For the 8 spoof image sets (4 spoof mediums $\times$ 2 cameras), a bezel was detected for many of these 9,120 images. However, some of these spoof images did not contain any bezel. The

spoof face images captured by the front facing camera from the Tablet screen, always contained a bezel due to our camera positioning, and on this image set the bezel detector detected bezels with 99.9% accuracy. This shows that our algorithm can detect bezels with high accuracy. Additionally, if we removed non-bezel images from the printed photo attacks captured by the front and rear facing cameras of the smartphone, bezels were correctly detected with 97.7% accuracy for the rear camera image set and with 84.9% accuracy for the front camera image set. Thus, our reject option based on bezel detection is effective in identifying spoof input to a FR system.

I. Performance Evaluation on Smartphones

We evaluate the performance of our Android application by asking 20 subjects to use the app for routine smartphone unlock. The spoof detector application was loaded onto a Google Nexus 5 and a HTC Desire Eye (see GUI in Fig. 21). These subjects were chosen to make sure that the test set was diverse in terms of race, age, sex and facial hair style. The face spoof detector was trained on a desktop using the MSU USSA database.

One set of experiments was designed to determine whether our application could successfully detect live faces. These tests were conducted in various illumination conditions such as a dark hallway, sunny outside environment, and an indoor apartment setting with a large window. The users were instructed to hold the phone at different arm lengths and to move around in their environment to introduce illumination variations. They were then instructed to periodically press the “verify” button on the application so that the result of face liveness detection could be automatically recorded. For each subject, five verification tests were conducted. Among the 100 live face attempts (5 per subject), our Android application successfully accepted 96 faces (96.0% accuracy) on the Google Nexus 5 and 94 faces (94.0% accuracy) on the HTC Desire Eye. In these tests, we did have the reject option turned on. We only encountered a single case in which the live subject was rejected by the bezel detection in all 5 verification attempts. These false rejects occurred due to the fact the subject was wearing a solid black shirt and that the test was conducted in a dark corner of the room. When we repeated the tests in the center of the room, where the illumination conditions were better, the bezel detection did not falsely reject the live user.

Additionally, we conducted experiments to determine whether the application could effectively detect spoof face access. We asked the participating subjects to capture selfie images, which we would use later to launch spoof face attacks. For spoof attacks, the selfie images were displayed on an iPhone 6 and an Apple MacBook Pro laptop with retina display. Again, we did five tests per spoof medium. Among the 200 spoof face accesses, our Android application on the Google Nexus 5 correctly rejected 155 spoof faces (77.5% accuracy) and 157 spoof faces (78.5% accuracy) when the MacBook Pro laptop and iPhone 6 were used as the spoof medium, respectively. On the HTC Desire Eye, our application correctly rejected 136 spoof faces (68.0% accuracy) and 162 spoof faces (81.0% accuracy) when the MacBook

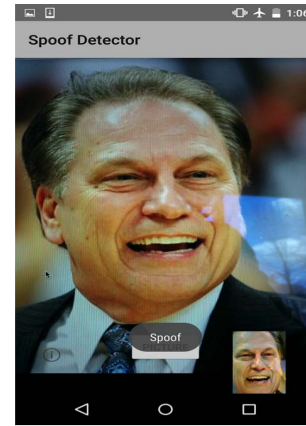


Fig. 21. The GUI of our Android application. The figure shows the recaptured image of a face replay attack on a MacBook Pro screen; as shown on the Nexus 5 screen, the application successfully detected the input as a spoof. The face image in the bottom-right corner displays the detected face.

Pro laptop and iPhone 6 were used as the spoof medium, respectively. The above spoof face detection results were recorded by turning off our reject option. If we use the reject option, numerous inputs to the FR system were rejected due to the detection of a bezel and the IPD constraint. The spoof detection performance of our application on both Google Nexus 5 and HTC Desire Eye reached the high 90% range if reject option was utilized.

The performance achieved in a cross-database testing scenario as reported in the literature, is not very good compared to intra-database testing (average HTER of 47.7% reported in [11] and 38.97% reported in [23]). However, the proposed face spoof detection system running on smartphone is able to achieve accuracies in the 80% range. Moreover, our results showcase the fact that performance obtained on laboratory collected databases tend not to reflect real world performance when users actually leverage spoof detection applications.

The results above also show that while the face spoof detection system was trained on the MSU USSA database, it still runs smoothly on HTC Desire Eye smartphone which has a completely different camera than the cameras used in collecting the MSU USSA database. These results show that the proposed approach and a large training database, namely MSU USSA, do not lead to a biased system; it does not simply detect different sensors and shows it generalizes well to different image acquisition devices.

For the incorrect classifications in live face unlock test, poor illumination condition is the main reason for failure, particularly dim light and yellow light. The main reason for the false acceptances of spoof face accesses is the lack of moiré patterns which are due to the occasional slow autofocus capability of the smartphone cameras.

J. Moiré Pattern Detection on a Smartphone

Given an input face image, our method will classify it as a spoof if moiré patterns are detected. As we discussed in Sec. III. C and in [1], the presence of moiré patterns provides evidence of displayed photo and video replay attacks launched using a digital screen. The method used for moiré pattern detection here is the same as in our earlier conference

paper [1]. As shown in [1], moiré patterns can be well represented using LBP descriptor, and thus moiré pattern detection method is naturally embedded in the proposed approach. It can also be used as a pre-filtering stage similar to the reject option.

To verify that our Android application is effective in detecting moiré patterns, we tested it on non-face images such as solid color images, outdoor images, and wallpapers containing cars. For each of these images, five verification tests were conducted. Among the 75 spoof attempts, our Android application correctly rejected 65 of them (86.7% accuracy) when using a MacBook Pro laptop to display the non-face images. This experiment shows that the proposed method still performs well for detecting displayed photo and video replay attacks, even if the face detection does not give accurate face detection results.

K. Running Time and Memory Requirement on Smartphones

The Android spoof detection application must provide fast response to the users. The current implementation takes 0.02 seconds for classification and 1.65 seconds to extract features from a single image frame (144×120) for a total time of 1.67 seconds. However, using three frames to make a decision leads to only a marginal increase in the total time to 1.95 seconds because of our multithreaded implementation on Android. Reported times are profiled on a Google Nexus 5 smartphone with 2GB of RAM and Quad-core 2.3 GHz Krait 400 CPU running native Android 5.0 ROM. As a comparison, the proposed approach takes 0.03 seconds on a desktop (see Section IV.B for desktop specification) for feature extraction and classification of a single frame. Our goal is to bring down the total time to less than 1 sec.

On the Google Nexus 5, our application utilizes 53 MB of RAM, a minuscule amount compared to the gigabytes of RAM available on smartphones today. Of the 53 MB, 15 megabytes are allocated for the SVM model file that was trained on the desktop. This model file contains 6,248 support vectors for the RBF SVM classifier.

VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Spoofing attacks can be easily launched against face recognition systems due to the low cost of obtaining printed photos or video replays. In order to address the problem of face spoofing on smartphones, we propose an efficient detection approach based on the analysis of image distortions in 2D spoof face images and the complementarity of individual cues (LBP and color moments). We also collected a large database, called the MSU Unconstrained Smartphone Spoof Attack (MSU USSA), that contains replay and printed photo attacks captured by different smartphone cameras. Experimental evaluations show that a large database is essential to learn robust face spoofing detection models, particularly under cross-database testing scenarios. Moreover, we show that features extracted from the red color channel provide better discriminative ability than the green, blue, and grayscale color channels. Additionally, we propose a simple but efficient reject option for face images based on IPD constraint and bezel detection. The proposed spoof detection method was implemented on two Android smartphones

(Google Nexus 5 and HTC Desire Eye), and the proposed approach can perform face spoof detection efficiently on commodity smartphones. We plan to make use of the temporal and contextual information included in multiple video frames to build more robust face spoof detection models.

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