



De-identifying biometric images for enhancing privacy and security

Arun Ross

**Associate Professor
Michigan State University**

rossarun@cse.msu.edu

[Work done with Asem Othman]

<http://www.cse.msu.edu/~rossarun>

Biometric Data Storage

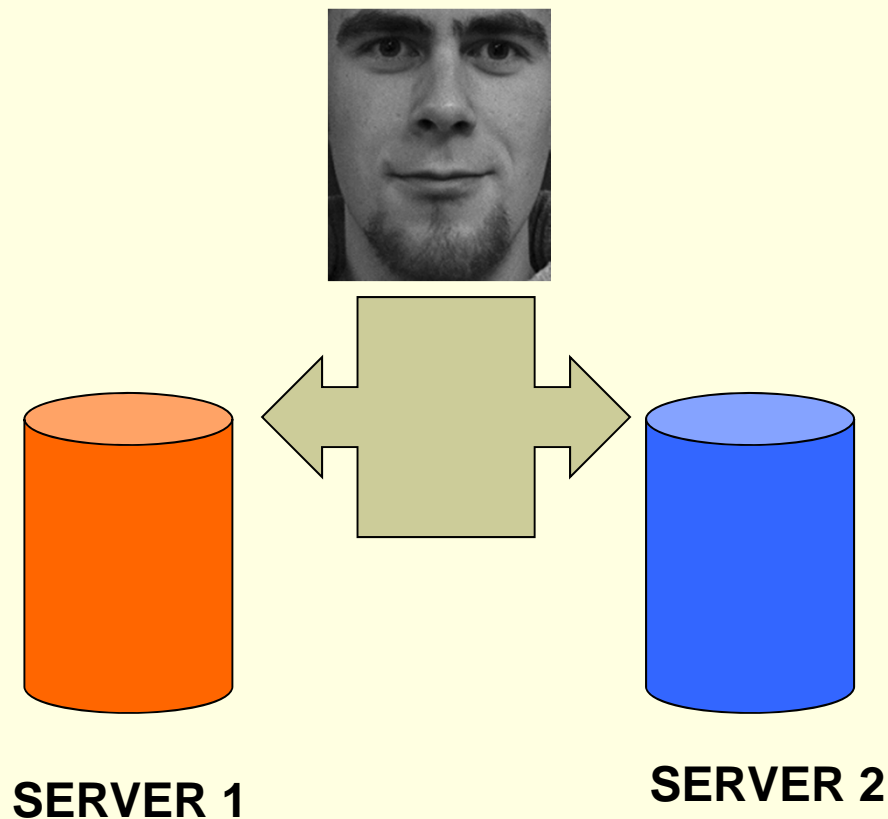
- Biometric data of an individual is sometimes stored in a **central** database
- Raises issues related to **security** and **privacy** of biometric data
 - Unlike compromised passwords, it is difficult to **re-issue** biometric data
 - **Cross-database matching** may be done to track individuals
 - **Biometric data mining** may be performed to glean information about identity

Preserving Privacy: Face

- **Face De-identification:** Perturb the image so that automated face recognition cannot be reliably done, but preserve details of the face such as expression and gender [Newton et al. (2005), Gross et al. (2006)]
- **Face Swapping:** Protect identity by automatically replacing faces in an image with substitutes taken from a large library of face images [Bitouk et al. (2008)]
- However, in the case of face swapping and de-identification the **original face image** can be lost

Proposed Strategy

- The input image is decomposed and stored in two separate servers: either server will be unable to deduce original identity



Visual Cryptography*

- Given an original binary image T , it is encrypted in n images, such that:

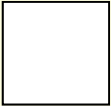




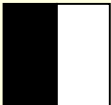
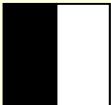






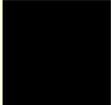
$$T = S_{h_1} \oplus S_{h_2} \oplus S_{h_3} \oplus \dots \oplus S_{h_k}$$

where \oplus is a Boolean operation , S_{hi} is an image which appears as **noise**, $k \leq n$, and n is the number of noisy images

- This is referred to as ***k-out-of-n*** VCS

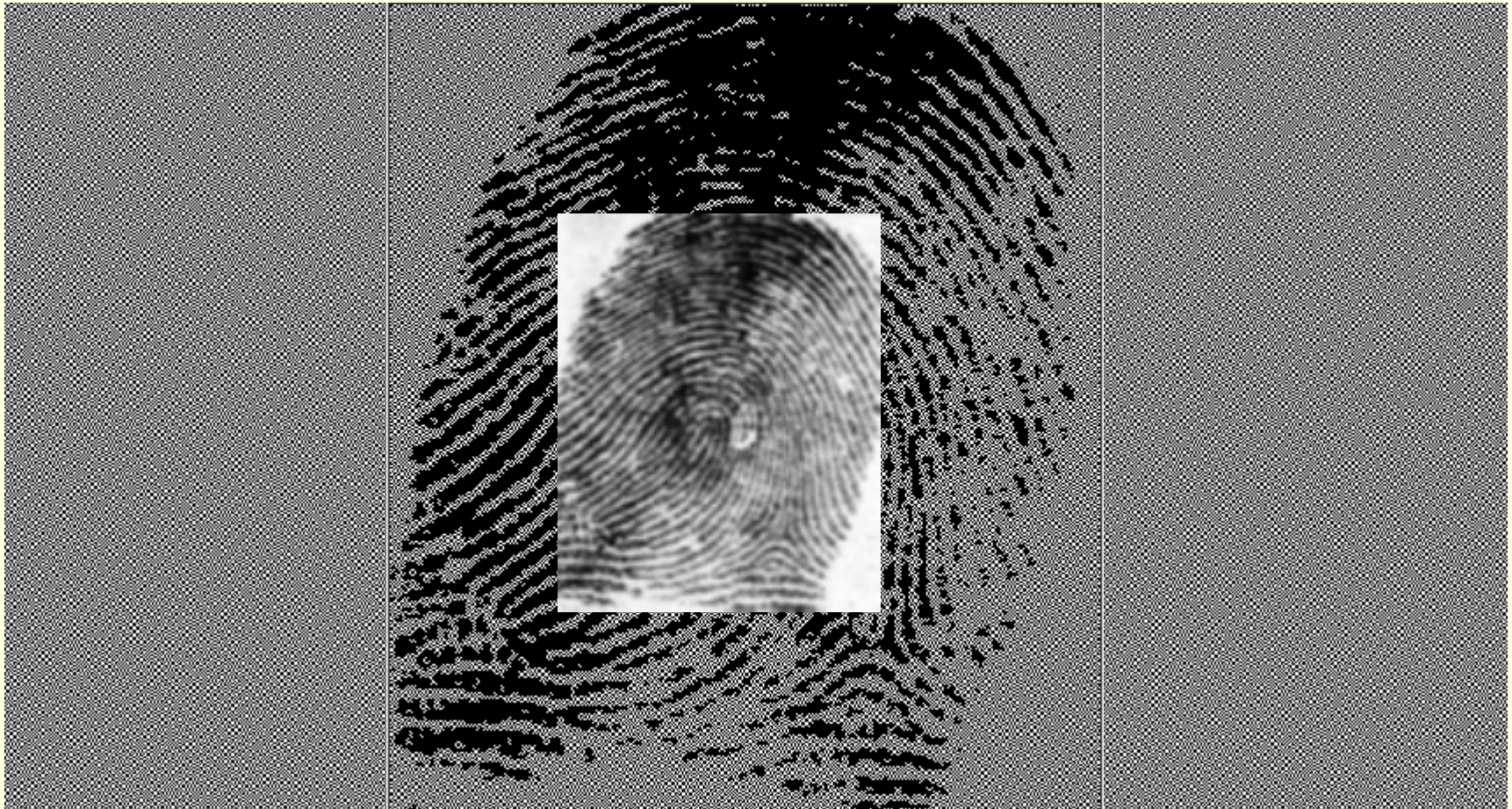
* M. Naor and A. Shamir, "Visual cryptography," in EUROCRYPT, pp. 1–12, 1994.

2-out-of-2 VCS

Pixel	Probability	Shares #1 #2	Superposition of the two shares	
	$p = 0.5$	 		White Pixels
	$p = 0.5$	 		
	$p = 0.5$	 		Black Pixels
	$p = 0.5$	 		

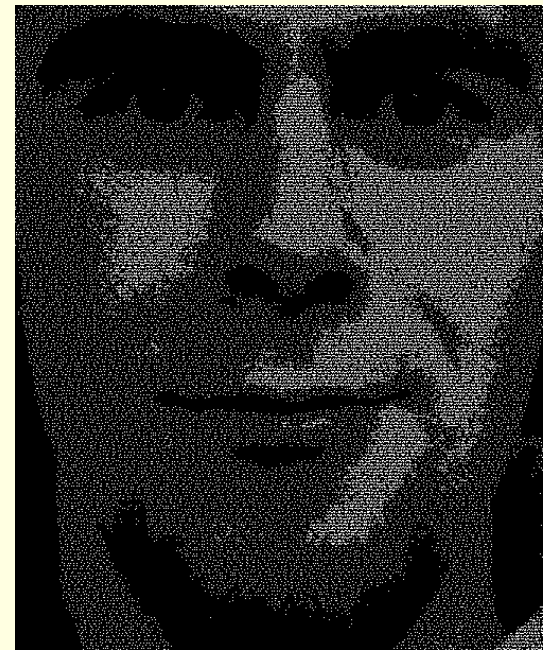
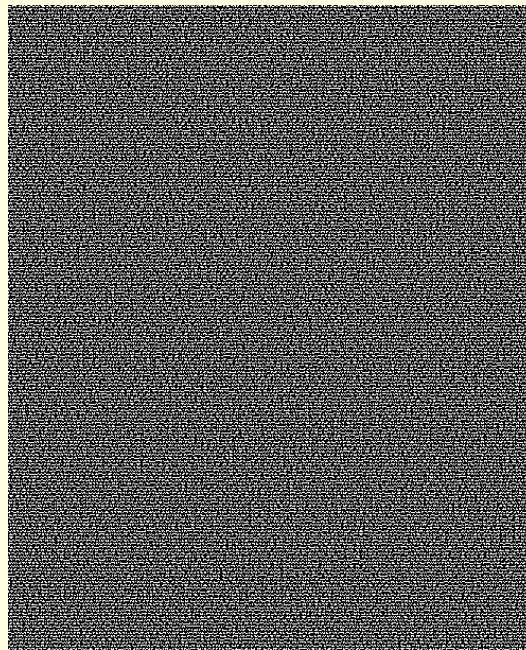
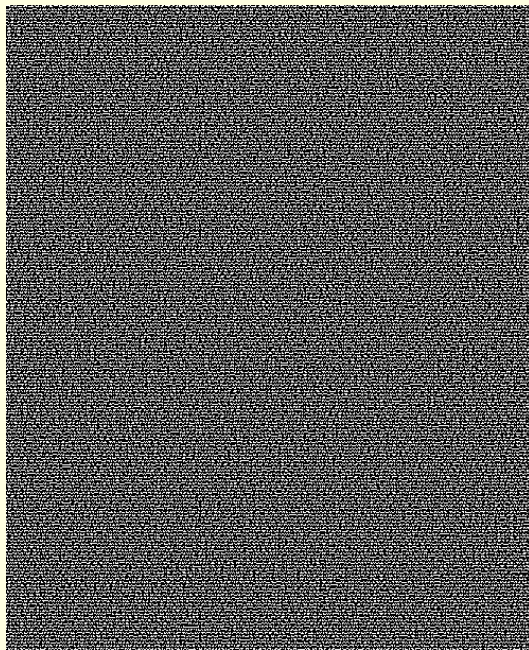
Sharing a secret image: Binary

- Decomposing a fingerprint into two random images



Sharing a secret image: Binary

- Decomposing a face into two random images



Gray-level Extended Visual Cryptography Scheme (GEVCS)

- VCS allows us to **encode** a secret image into n sheet images
- These sheets appear as a **random** set of pixels
- The sheets could be reformulated as **natural images**
 - known as **host** images

Visual Cryptography: An Example



PRIVATE IMAGE



HOSTS (PUBLIC IMAGES)



**PRIVATE IMAGE
AFTER DECRYPTION**



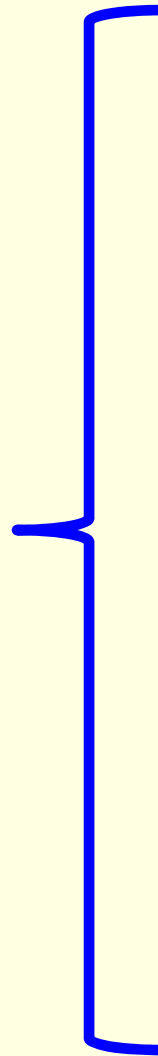
HOSTS AFTER ENCRYPTION

Visual Cryptography

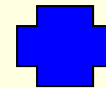
Actual Face



=



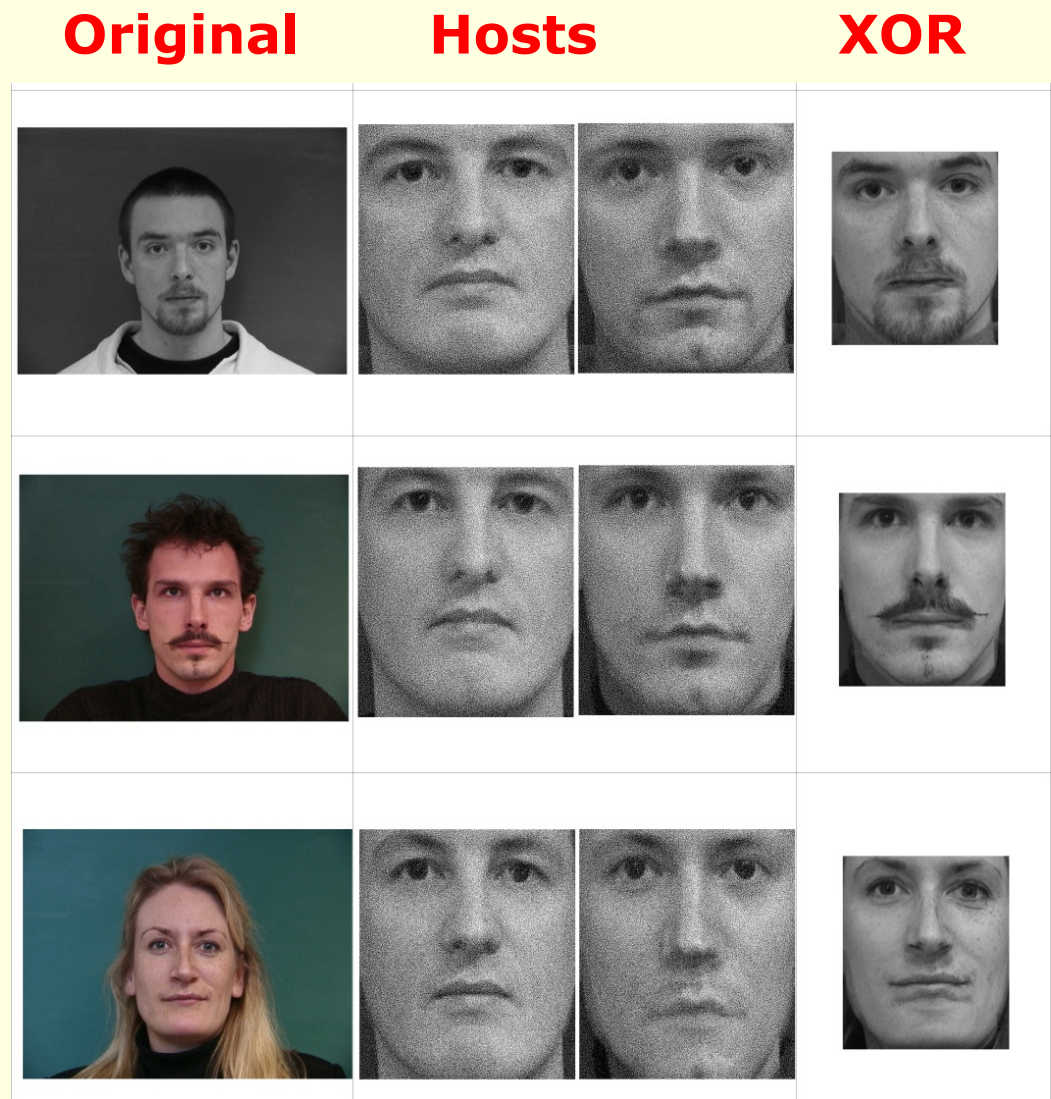
HOST IMAGE 1



HOST IMAGE 2

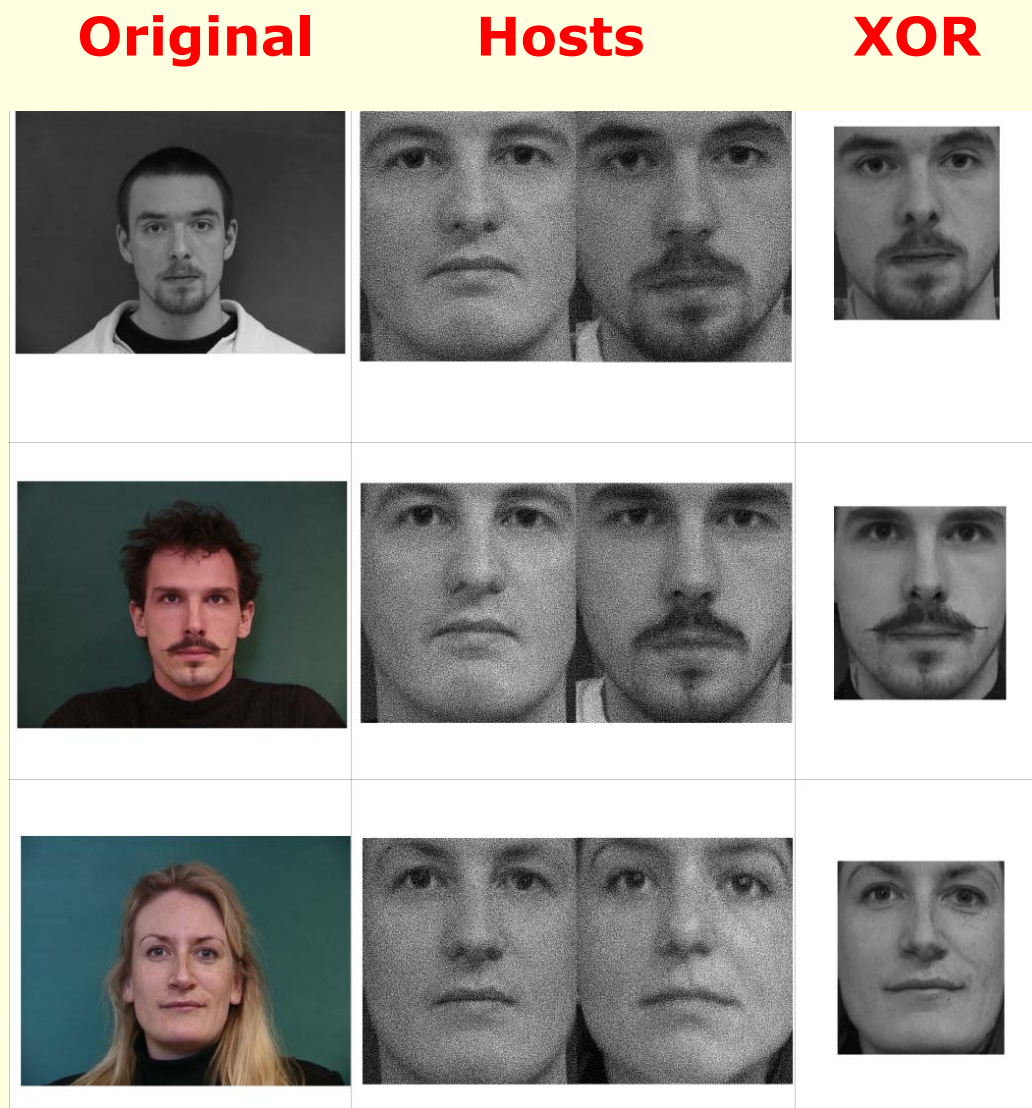
Two fixed host images

- The original image is encrypted into two **fixed host** images



Automated Host Image Selection

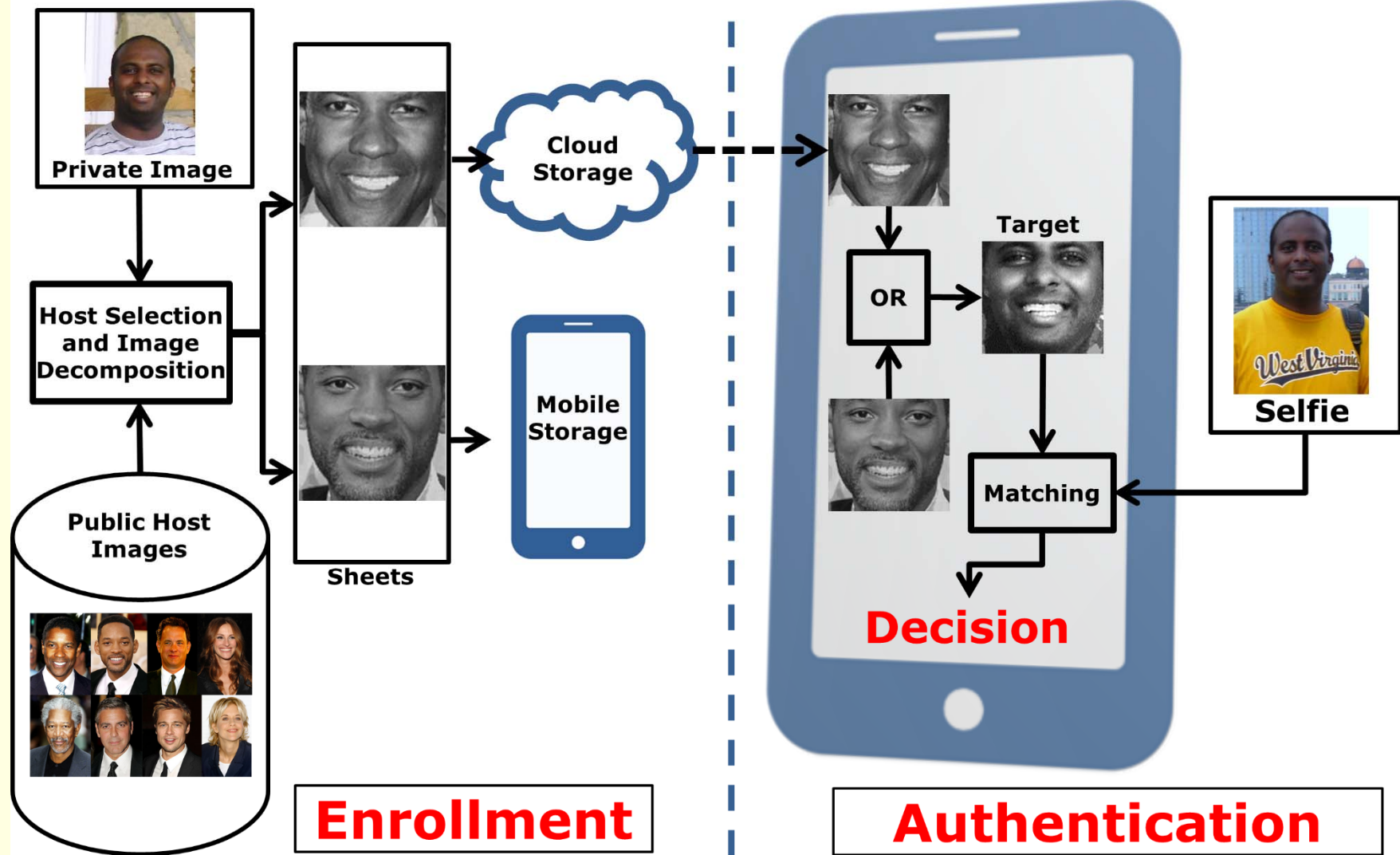
- The original image is encrypted into two **dynamically selected** host images



Face Privacy: Results

- Method to protect **privacy** of face images by decomposing it into two independent host (public) face images
- Original face image can be reconstructed only when **both** host images are available
- Either host image **does not expose** the identity of the original face image

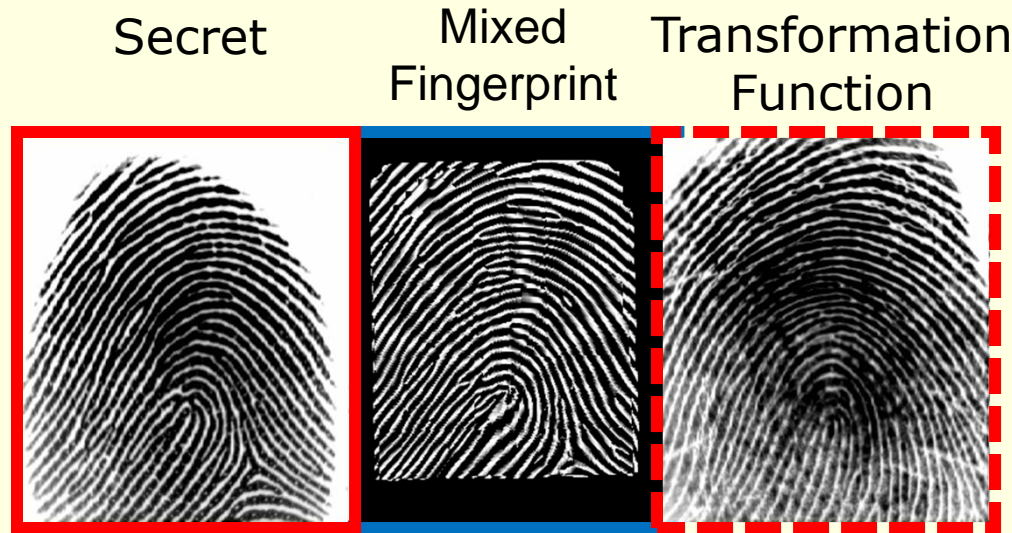
Application



Mixing Fingerprints

- An input fingerprint image is **mixed** with another fingerprint (e.g., from a different finger)
 - produces a **new mixed fingerprint image** that **obscures** the identity of the original fingerprint
- We consider the problem of mixing two fingerprint images in order to generate a new **cancelable fingerprint image**

Mixing Fingerprints



- Mixing fingerprints creates a new entity that looks like a **plausible fingerprint**:
 - It can be processed by conventional fingerprint algorithms
 - An intruder may not be able to determine if a given fingerprint is mixed or not

Hologram Model

- The ridge flow of a fingerprint can be represented as a 2D Amplitude and Frequency Modulated (AM-FM) signal:

Realistic appearance

$$I(x, y) = a(x, y) + b(x, y) * \cos[\psi(x, y)] + n(x, y)$$

Ridges and minutiae

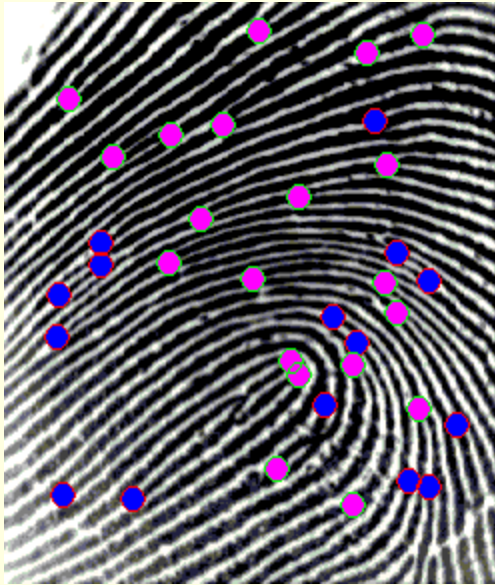
Helmholtz Decomposition

- Based on the Helmholtz Decomposition theorem, the phase $\Psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ can be uniquely decomposed into two components:

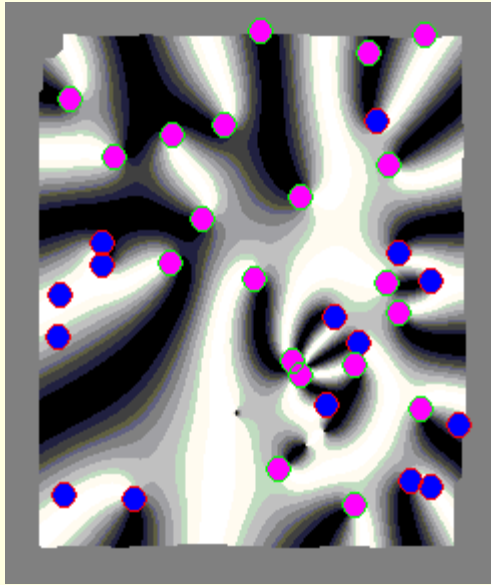
$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Psi_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \Psi_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

- The continuous component, $\Psi_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, defines the local ridge orientation
- The spiral component, $\Psi_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$, characterizes the minutiae locations

Fingerprint Decomposition



Original



Spiral Phase



Continuous Phase

Mixing Fingerprints













- Let F_1 and F_2 be two different fingerprint images from different fingers, and let $\Psi_{c_i}(x, y)$ and $\Psi_{s_i}(x, y)$ be the pre-aligned continuous and spiral phases, $i = 1, 2$.

$$MF_1 = \cos[\Psi_{c_2}(x, y) + \Psi_{s_1}(x, y)]$$

$$MF_2 = \cos[\Psi_{c_1}(x, y) + \Psi_{s_2}(x, y)]$$

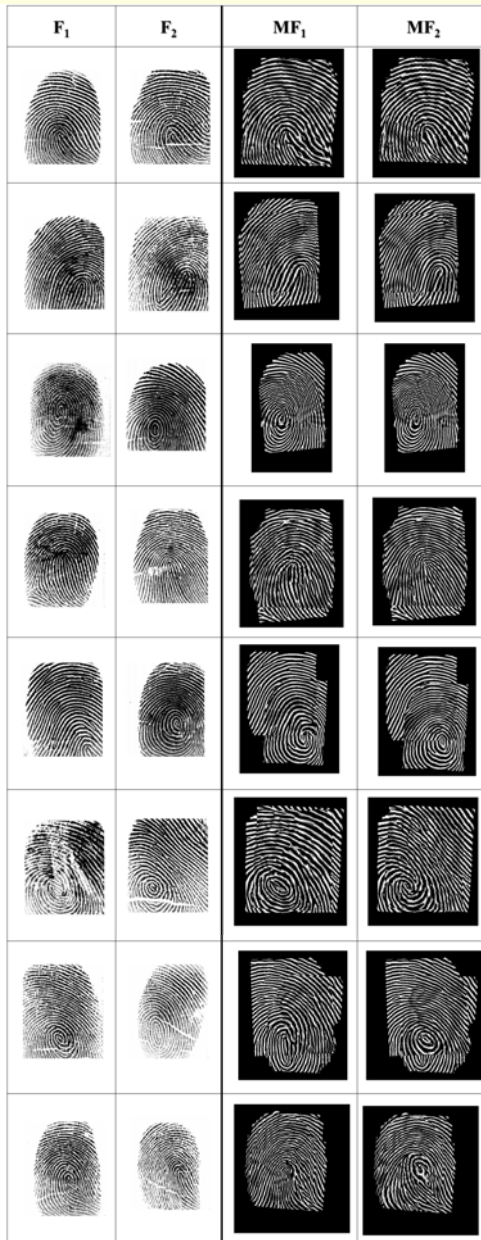
- The continuous phase of F_2 is combined with the spiral phase of F_1 which generates a new fused fingerprint image MF_1

Mixed Fingerprint Images

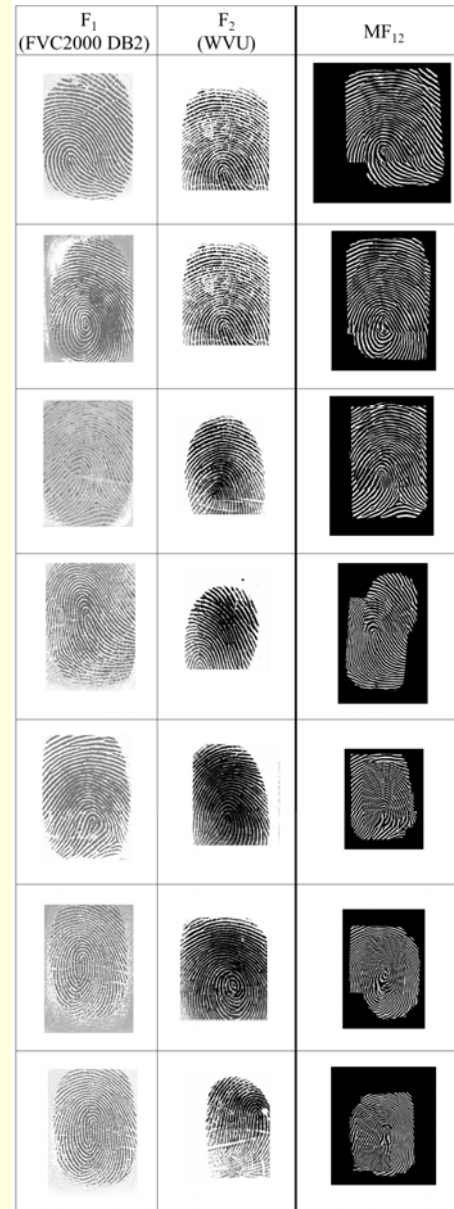
F_1 (FVC2000 DB2)	F_2 (WVU)	MF_1
		
		
		
		

Mixed Fingerprints

WVU with WVU



WVU with FVC



Mixing Fingerprints: Results

- Can the mixed fingerprint be used as a **new** biometric identity? (Yes)
- Are the original fingerprint and the mixed fingerprint **correlated**? (No)
- Does mixing result in **cancelable** templates? (Yes)
- If two different fingerprints are mixed with a **common fingerprint**, are the mixed fingerprints similar? (No)

Summary

- Visual Cryptography for **decomposing** a face and storing it in two separate servers
 - Individual servers cannot identify the face
- Mixing fingerprints by **combining** the spiral and continuous phase components of two fingerprint images
 - Cancellable fingerprints
 - Joint identity/Group Authentication

Publications

[Funded by NSF CAREER Award]

- A. Ross and A. Othman, "Visual Cryptography for Biometric Privacy," IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security (TIFS), Vol. 6, Issue 1, pp. 70 - 81, March 2011
- A. Othman and A. Ross, "On Mixing Fingerprints," IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics and Security, Vol. 8, Issue 1, pp. 260 - 267, January 2013
- A. Ross and A. Othman, "Mixing Fingerprints for Template Security and Privacy," Proc. of the 19th European Signal Processing Conference (EUSIPCO), (Barcelona, Spain), August/September 2011
- A. Othman and A. Ross, "Mixing Fingerprints For Generating Virtual Identities," Proc. of IEEE International Workshop on Information Forensics and Security (WIFS), (Foz do Iguacu, Brazil), November/December 2011



De-identifying biometric images for enhancing privacy and security

Arun Ross

**Associate Professor
Michigan State University**

rossarun@cse.msu.edu

[Work done with Asem Othman]

<http://www.cse.msu.edu/~rossarun>