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Unified Quality Score based on MagFace

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https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/StyleGAN

Motivation

Face quality is a pre-requisite for successful deployment of face recognition

- Error rates are strongly dependent on face image quality
- Quality assurance of face images is paramount
- Good facial image quality assessment (FIQA) algorithms required
- OFIQ will be an open source implementation of FIQA algorithms
 - Funded by BSI

Face Image Quality

For face recognition, the facial images should meet various requirements

- Capture related: illumination, exposure, sharpness, background, ...
- Subject-related: Frontal pose, neutral expression, no occlusions, ...
- Some are known to contribute to low error rates, others are imposed by regulations, e.g. for passport images

Face Image Quality

Beside assessing the individual requirements, OFIQ will output a Unified Quality Score

- Acc. to ISO/IEC 29794-5, it shall be trained to predict the **utility** of the face image
 - Degree to which it supports biometric recognition performance (ISO/IEC 29794-1)
- Thus, the Unified Quality Score relates to the error rates of face recognition



Figure 7 – Four face images with example image quality values.

MagFace: A Universal Representation for Face Recognition and Quality Assessment

- Meng, Zhao, Huang & Zhou, CVPR 2021
- Defines a new loss function for the training of face recognition CNNs
- Leads the CNN to learn quality-aware feature representations
- Extends the ArcFace loss
 - Enforce correlation between quality and magnitude (length) of feature representation

Most modern face recognition CNNs are trained on classification

- Class = subject in training set
- Final layer(s) ("head") perform classification



Subjects in training set

Most modern face recognition CNNs are trained on classification

- Class = subject in training set
- Final layer(s) ("head") perform classification
- After training, the head is removed
 - \rightarrow output: internal feature representations
- Loss function ensures that distance of feature representations measure similarity of face images
- Distance measure depends on loss function
 - \rightarrow e.g. Euclidean or cosine distance



Feature representation

ArcFace loss:

- Similarity measured by geodetic distance on hypersphere
- Feature representations are normalized to unit length
- Additional margin is enforced between classes (subjects) by penalizing too short distance to other class centres
- Length (magnitude) of feature representation is irrelevant



Distances of representations on hypersphere (colors = classes) Zhang, Gong, Chen: Face recognition based on adaptive margin and diversity regularization constraints. IET Image Processing 15 (5). 2021

MagFace loss:

- Enforced class margin depends on length of feature representation
- Penalty for too short distance to other classes decreases with representation length
 - i.e. longer feature representation ightarrow larger margin required
- Additional regularization term to maximize representation length
- Leads the CNN to learn quality-aware feature representations
 - Typically, poor quality images result in higher variance of representations
 - → Smaller distance (margin) to other classes
 - → Shorter feature representation
- Results in a combined CNN for face recognition and unified quality score

Authors have published different MagFace models on Github

- iResNet100
- iResNet50
- IResNet50FP16 (trained with float16)
- iResNet18
- Models have been evaluated with respect to the quality score

Evaluation Methodology

Unified quality score doesn't assess any specific property of the image

No evaluation with ground-truth data possible

It predicts the image's influence on biometric performance

- Typically, quality has a higher impact on FNMR than on FMR
- Thus, we evaluate the correlation of the score with the FNMR
- Precisely, we use Error-versus-Discard Characteristics (EDC)
 - Analyses the decline of the FNMR when using the FIQA algorithm for quality assurance

Evaluation Methodology

Face recognition algorithms

- Commercial products: Paravision (1.0.6) and Cognitec (9.3.2.0)
- Open source CNNs: ArcFace (ResNet100) and MagFace (ResNet100)
- Test set: 50.000 images from VGGFace2
 - Large of variance of quality and variety of quality issues

iResNet18



iResNet50



iResNet50FP16



iResNet100



Comparison of MagFace (iResNet100) with other FIQA

SDD

SER-FIQ (on ArcFace)

On VGGFace2

PFE

MagFace

- ArcFace as face recognition algorithm
- Top performance, on par with PFE and SDD-FIQA





FaceQnet v2

iResNet50 floating point 16 very efficient





Summary and Outlook

MagFace approach shows good predictive performance as FIQA algorithm

Best trade-off with processing time achieved for model iResNet50 FP16

Future improvements:

- Fusion with criteria-specific algorithms of OFIQ, e.g. head pose, illumination, eyes open
 - Requires training on large data set
 - Outputs of algorithms (incl MagFace) are features
 - Labels computed from comparison scores

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