

The synthetically generated bowling ball CAPTCHA is currently effective as synthetic media is still very new. In the 'eyes' of computers, the synthetically generated images made by the likes of DALL-E are real. It takes a human to identify what are computer generated images and what aren't.

But as the history of CAPTCHA has demonstrated, it's only a matter of time before computers develop the ability to bypass this CAPTCHA too.

So what might be next?

As synthetic media is becoming increasingly common and mainstream, there is a need for computers to be able to identify it. Due to how new it is, there isn't a large enough database for computers to do so accurately. Therefore CAPTCHA, as a tried and tested data collection tool, is using the (currently) unique human ability to distinguish between what is synthetic and what isn't. Our responses will develop the computer's capability to also identify what is made by a computer - which has many potential uses.

The most logical progression of CAPTCHA would be to actually implement synthetic media tools as the test.

Future CAPTCHAs will consist of tests that measure data that still distinguish humans from computers, data that can be used to train computers to become more human-like.