

# *VocalLock*: Sensing Vocal Tract for Passphrase-Independent User Authentication Leveraging Acoustic Signals on Smartphones

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# Background



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# Background



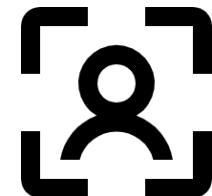
# Background



Fingerprint



Voiceprint



Face

# Existing Approaches



A legitimate user?  
A spoofing AI?

→ Liveness Verification!

# Existing Approaches

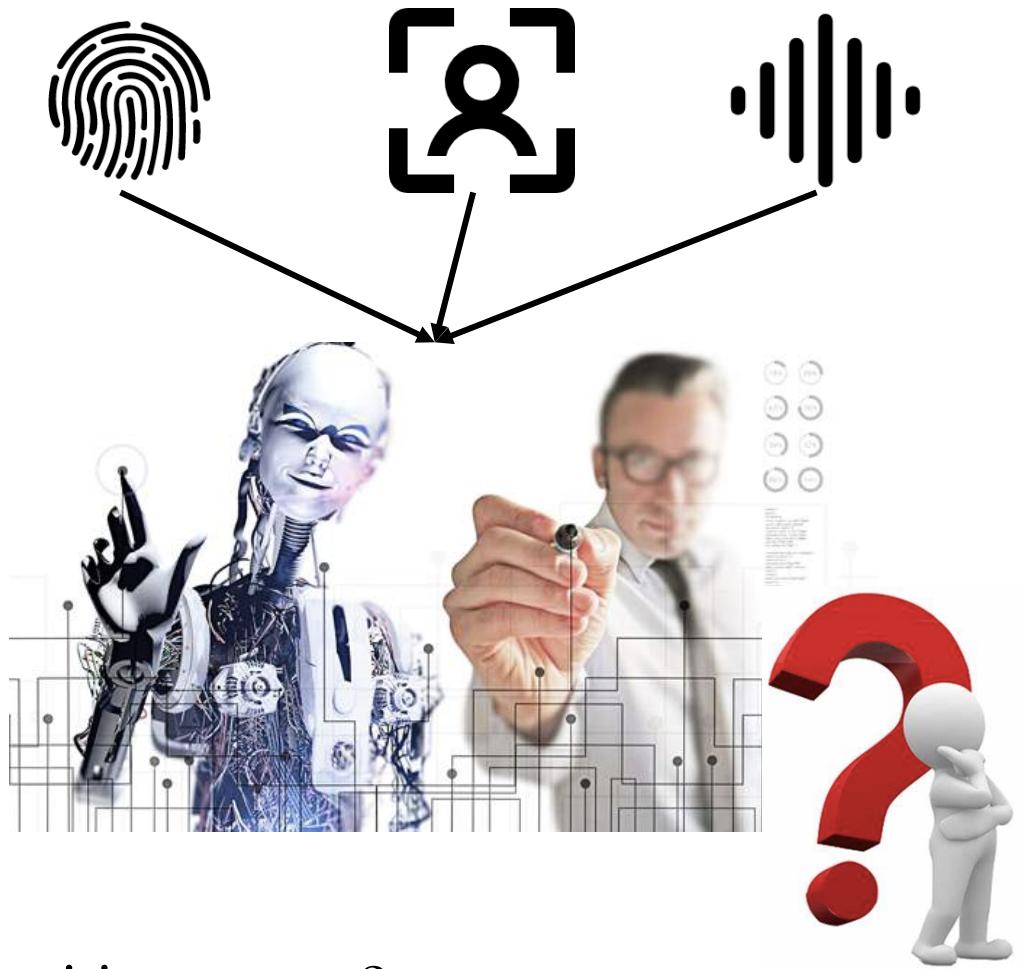


A legitimate user?  
A spoofing AI?

Liveness Verification!



# Existing Approaches



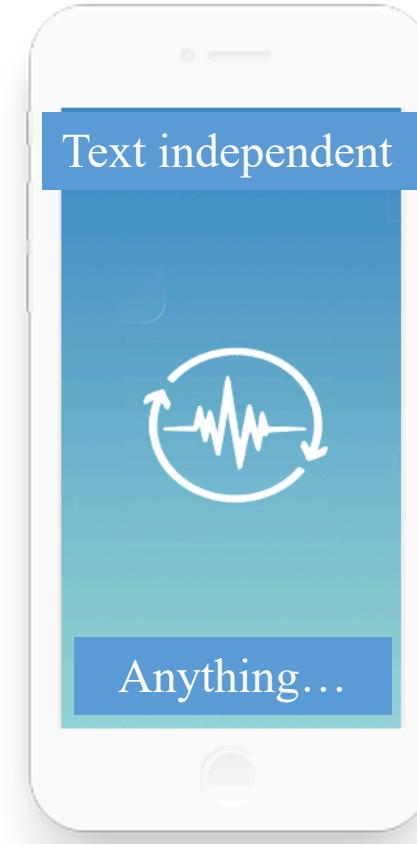
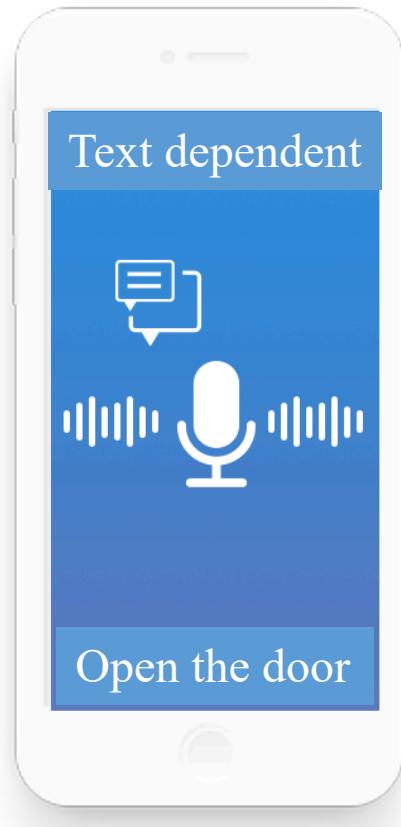
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Liveness Verification!

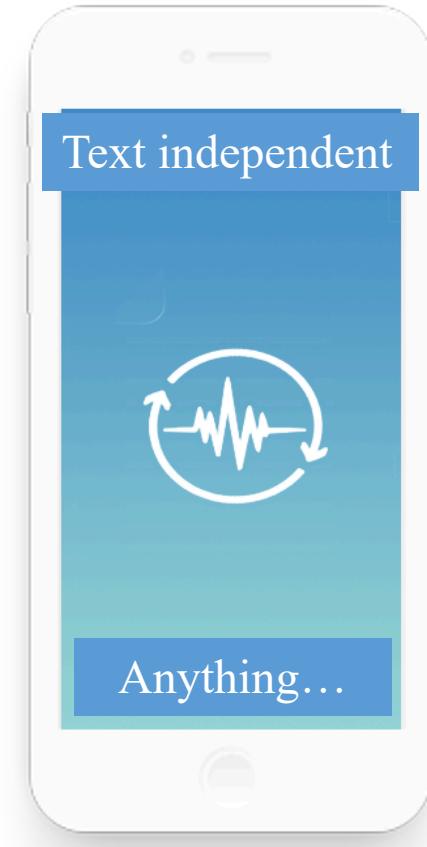
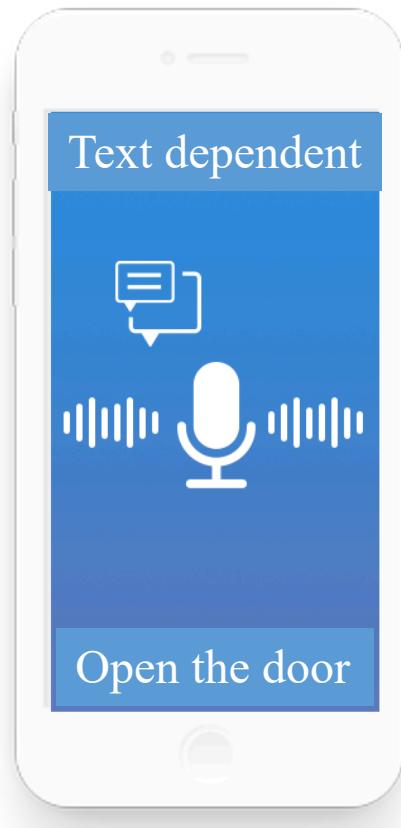


Behavior!

# Passphrase-independent Authentication



# Passphrase-independent Authentication

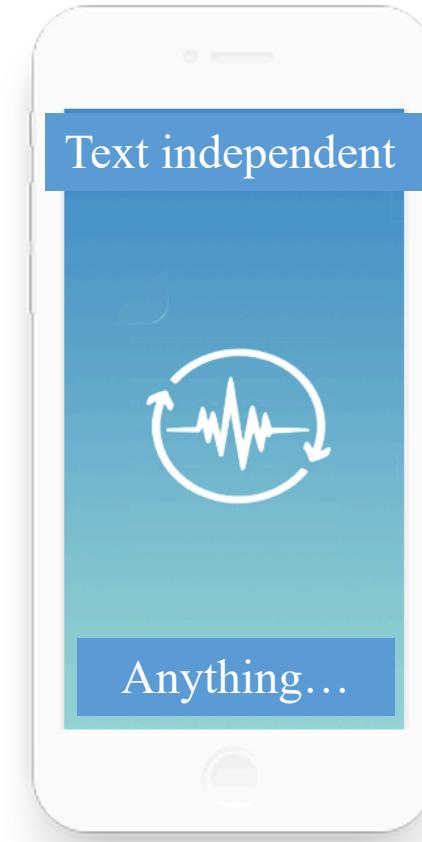
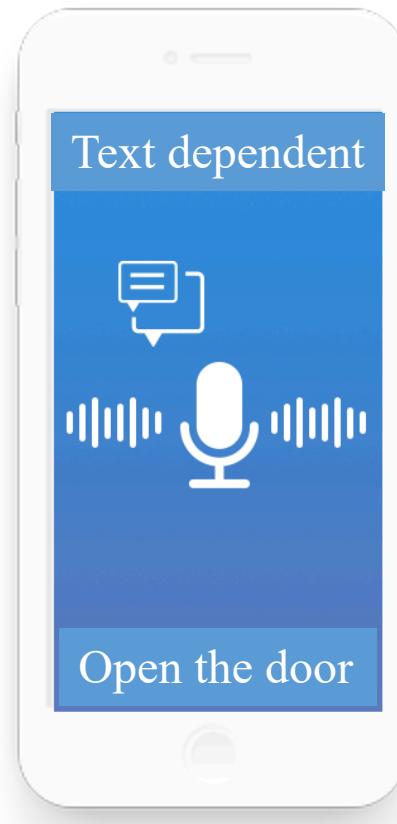


For Unlock



Memory Required

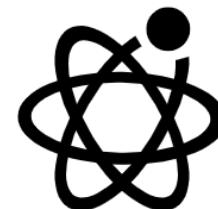
# Passphrase-independent Authentication



For Unlock



Memory Required

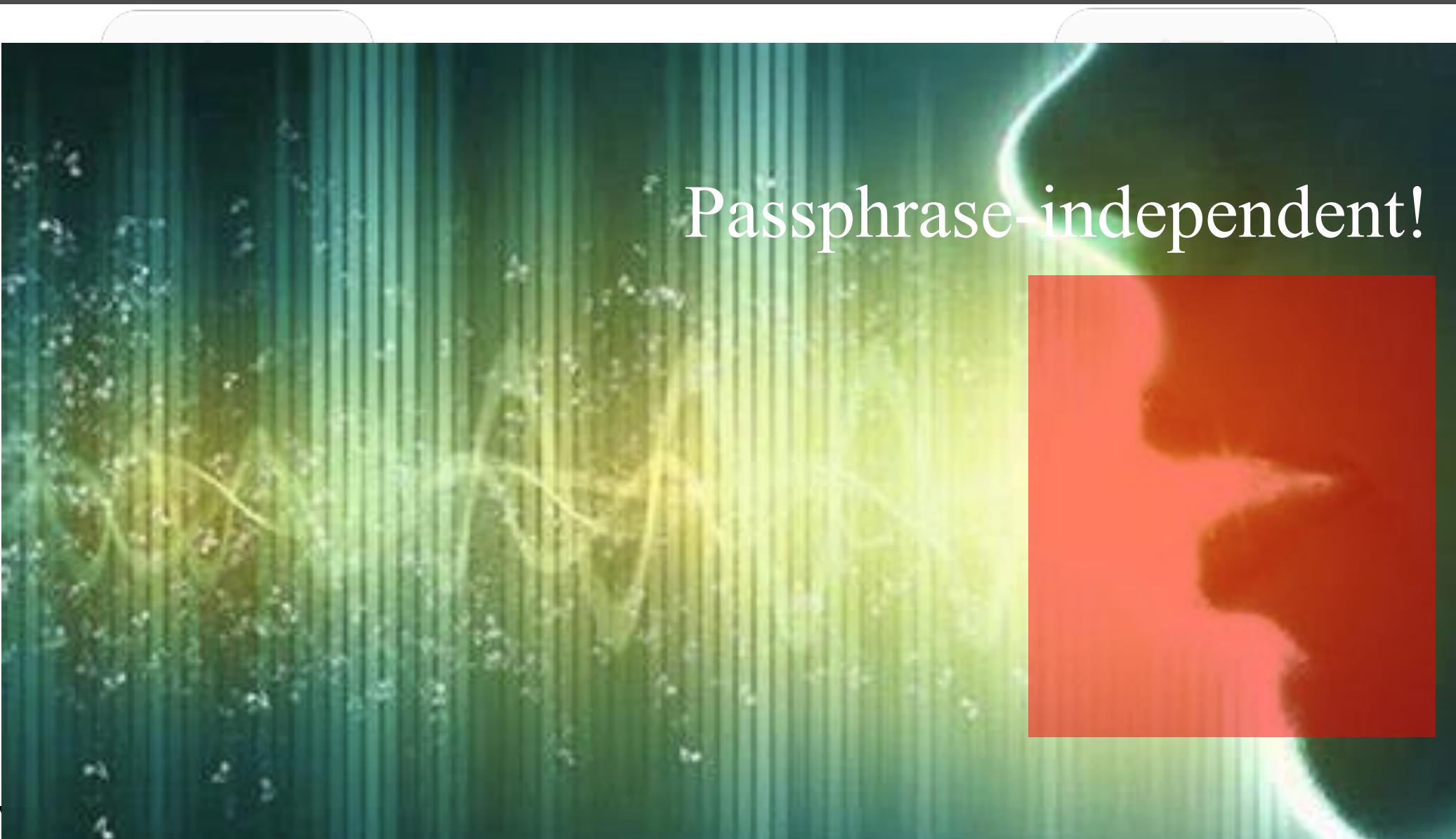


Flexible



More scenarios supported

# Passphrase-independent Authentication



Passphrase-independent!

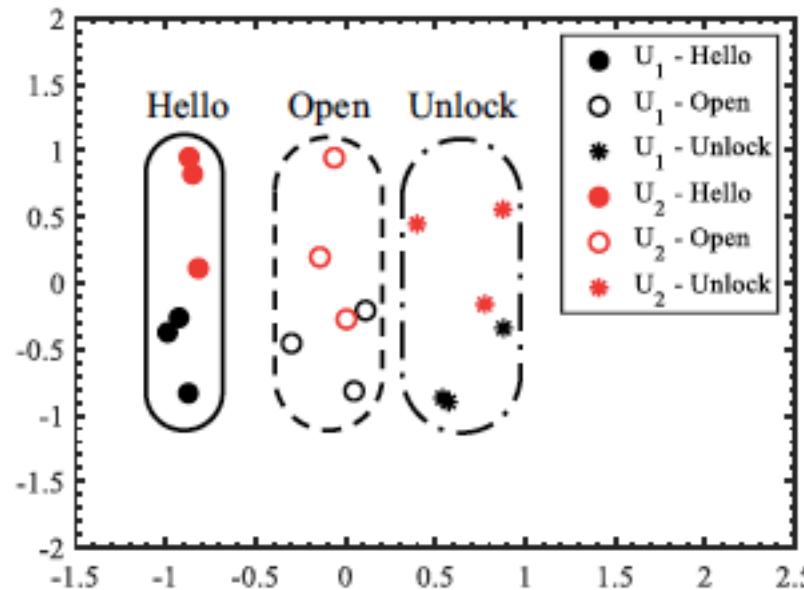
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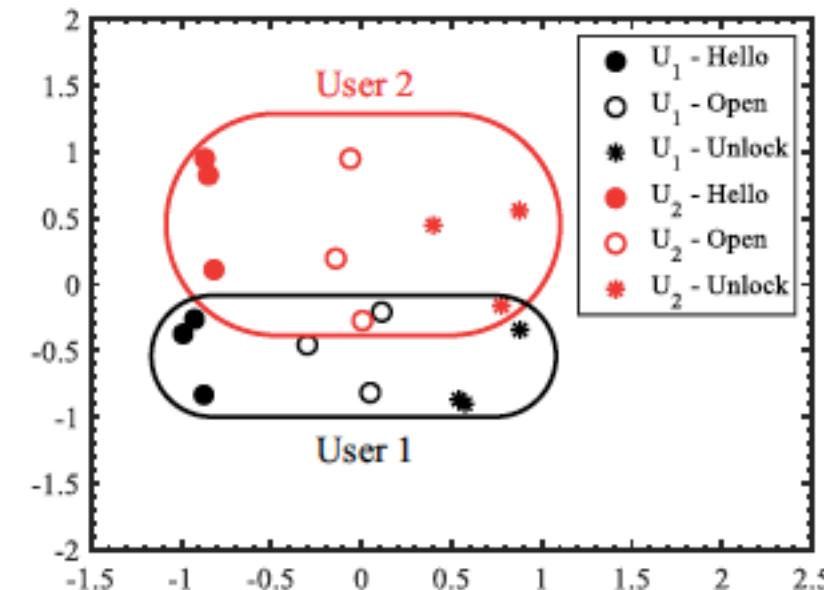
# Preliminary

## ➤ How to implement?

- Inspired by text-independent voiceprint authentication, we employ **statistical feature-based** method
- Feasibility study: based on PCA



(a) Perspective of passphrases.

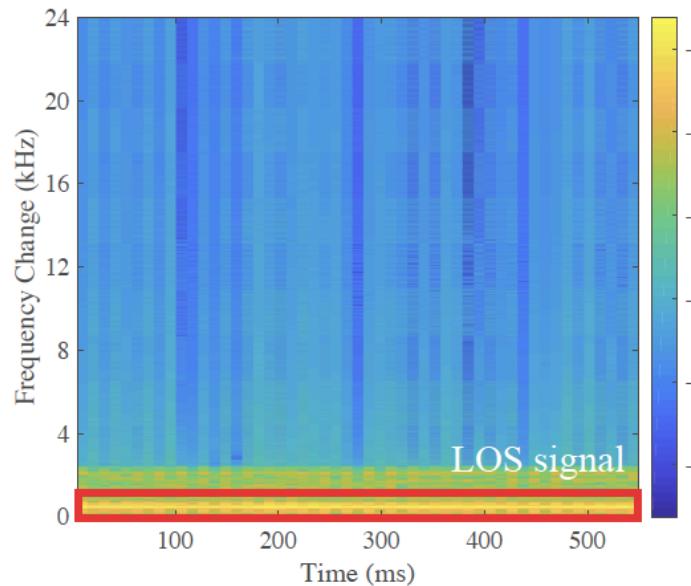


(b) Perspective of volunteers.

# Sensing Vocal Tract with FMCW

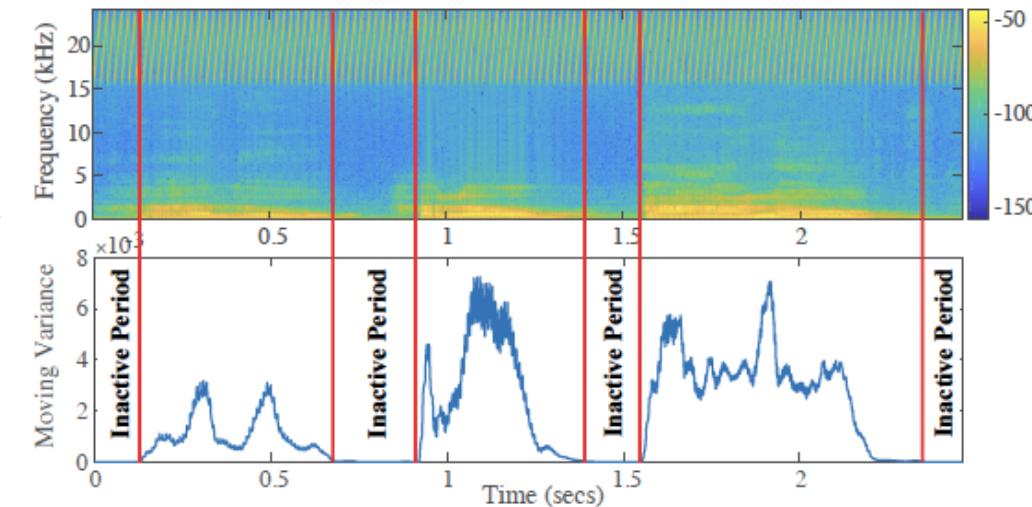
## ➤ Signal Design & Processing

- Period: time-invariant behavior within **20ms**
- Bandwidth: sensing resolution + device limitation and human auditory → **16kHz~24kHz**
- Segmentation: voice detection → Moving variance on 300Hz~5kHz signal band
- Dechirping: multiply operation on both signals



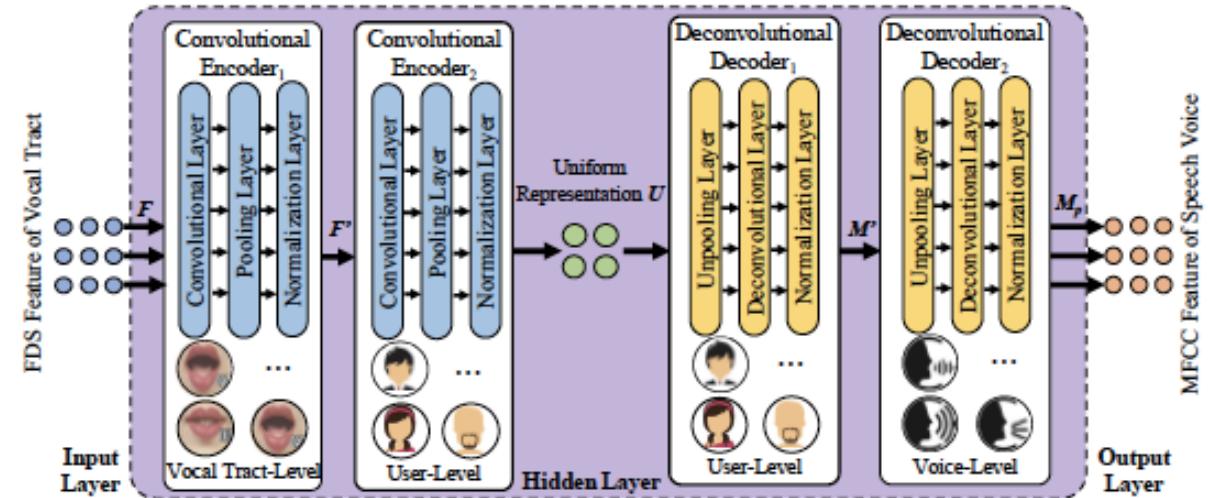
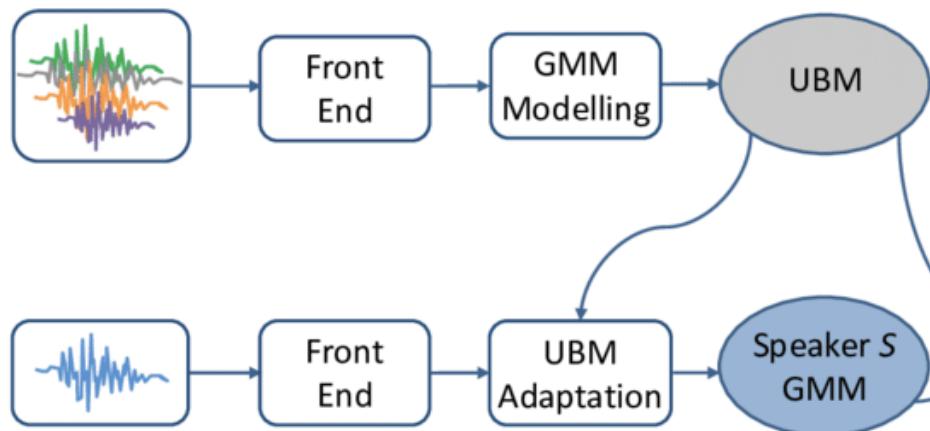
## ➤ Extract Features of Vocal Tract

- Signal components: targeted signal + LOS + other reflections
- LOS: significantly strong, covering other signals
  - Elimination: **STFT-based heuristic method** → Search n-th maximum frequency response and eliminate the first m-th ones by empirical studies
- Other reflections elimination: **threshold on ToF**



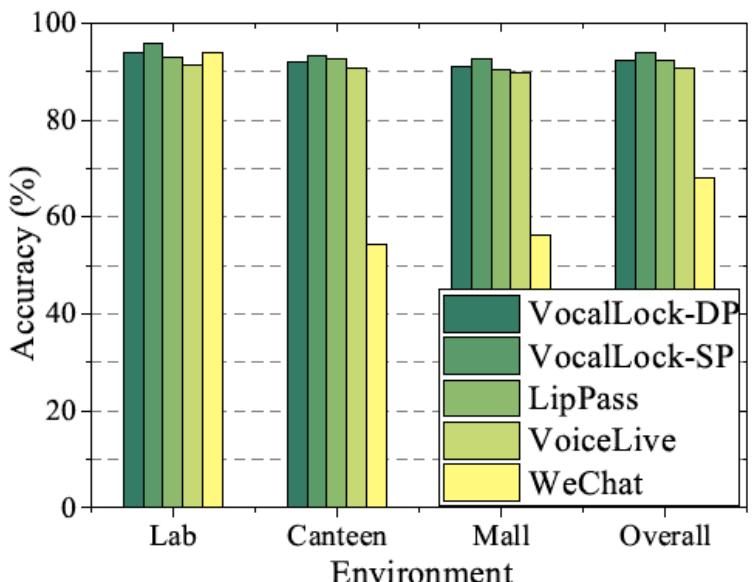
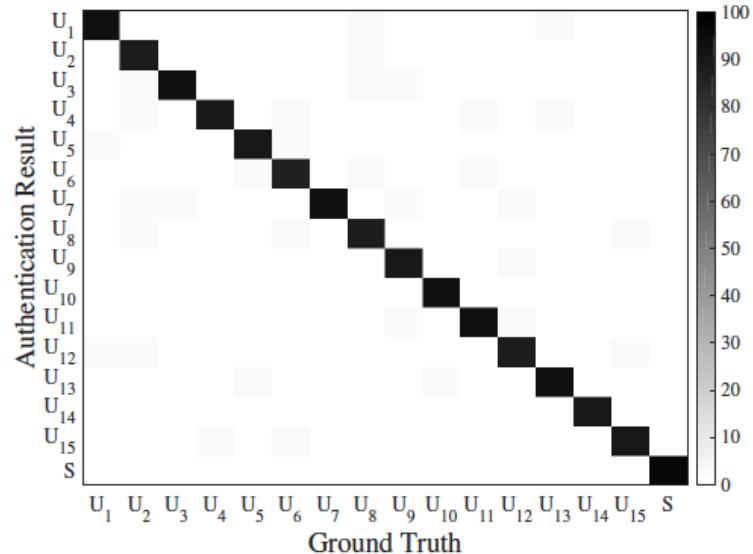
# Construct Passphrase-independent Model

- Passphrase-independent Authentication
  - Statistical model: **GMM-UBM** (widely-used in text-dependent voiceprint authentication)
  - Employed features: **MFCC**
  - Pre-operation: **frequency difference → MFCC**
- Feature Transferring for Model Construction
  - **Encoder-decoder structure**
  - Encoder: transferring frequency difference to uniform representation, based on **CNN**
  - Decoder: transferring uniform representation to MFCC, based on **Deconv network**



# Overall Performance

- Authenticating users in **passphrase-independent** manner
  - Accuracy of identifying legitimate users: **90.4%**
  - Accuracy of detecting spoofers: **96.7%**
  - Overall accuracy: **91.0%**, standard derivation: **3.1%**
  
- Performance Comparison
  - VocalLock: **93.8%**
  - LipPass: 92.8%
  - WeChat: 94.0%
  - VoiceLive: 90.6%



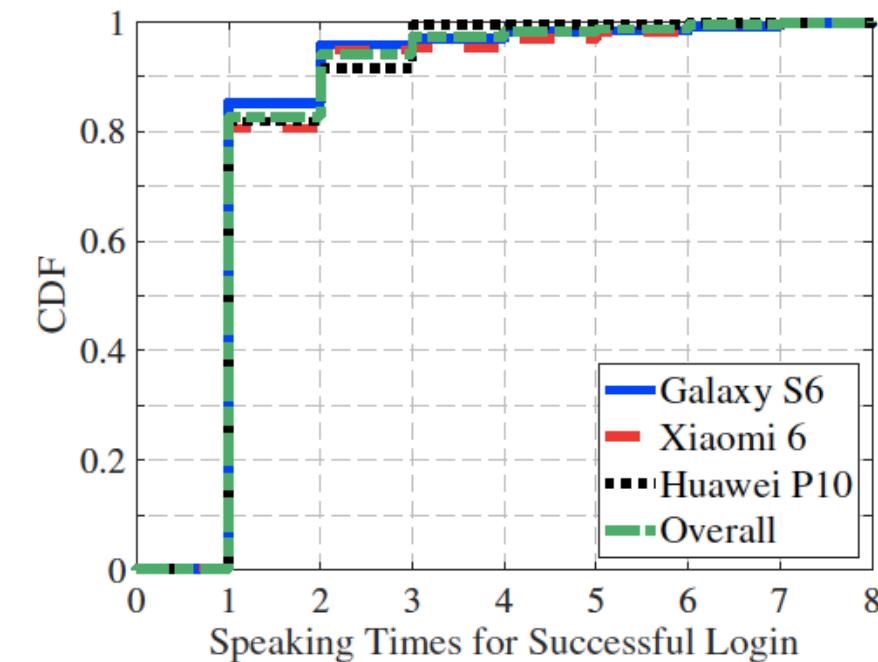
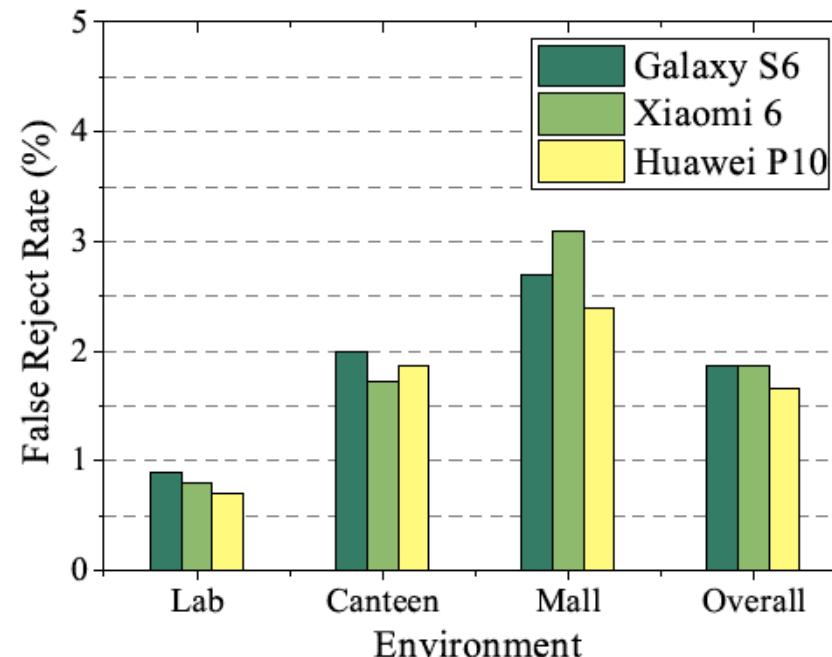
# User Experience

## ➤ False Reject Rate

- Overall: All below 2%
- FRR under Complex Environment being a little higher (i.e., mall in our experiments)

## ➤ Speaking Times for Successful Login

- 82.7% users could login using only 1 speaking
- Over 95% users could login within 3 speakings



# Conclusion

- Observation:
  - Investigate the feasibility of employing FMCW on acoustic signals to **sense the vocal tract**
  - Study the feasibility of using **statistical methods** to realize **passphrase-independent** user authentication
- Technical Contribution:
  - Propose a **passphrase-independent user authentication** by sensing vocal tract with FMCW on acoustic signals
  - Develop an **STFT-based heuristic method** to extract the reflected signals from vocal tract
  - Design **transfer learning-based** neural network and employ **GMM-UBM** to construct authentication model
- Performance Evaluation:
  - Authentication accuracy: **above 90%**
  - False reject rate: **below 2%**

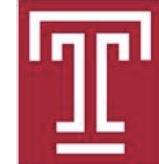
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