



Diffusion Morphs (DiM)

Leveraging Diffusion for Strong and High-Quality Face Morphing Attacks

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Introduction

Face Morphing

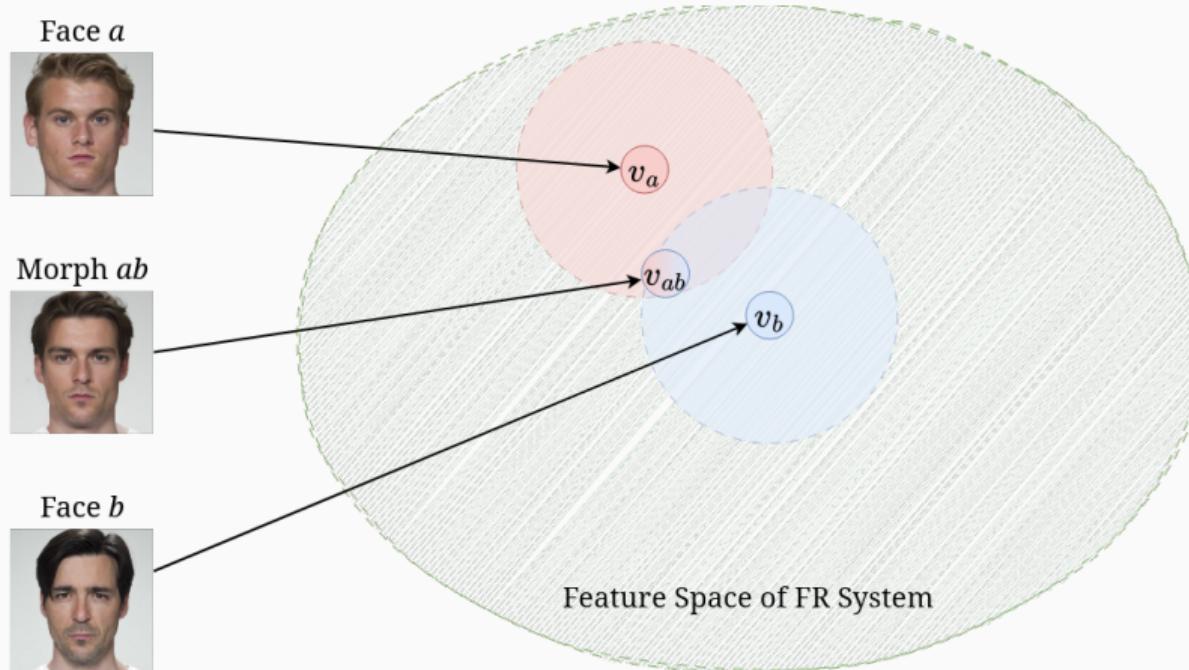


Figure 1: Images from FRL1¹ dataset. Morph generated via DiM.

¹Lisa DeBruine and Benedict Jones. "Face Research Lab London Set". In: (May 2017). DOI: 10.6084/m9.figshare.5047666.v5. URL: https://figshare.com/articles/dataset/Face_Research_Lab_London_Set/5047666.

Morph Creation Pipeline

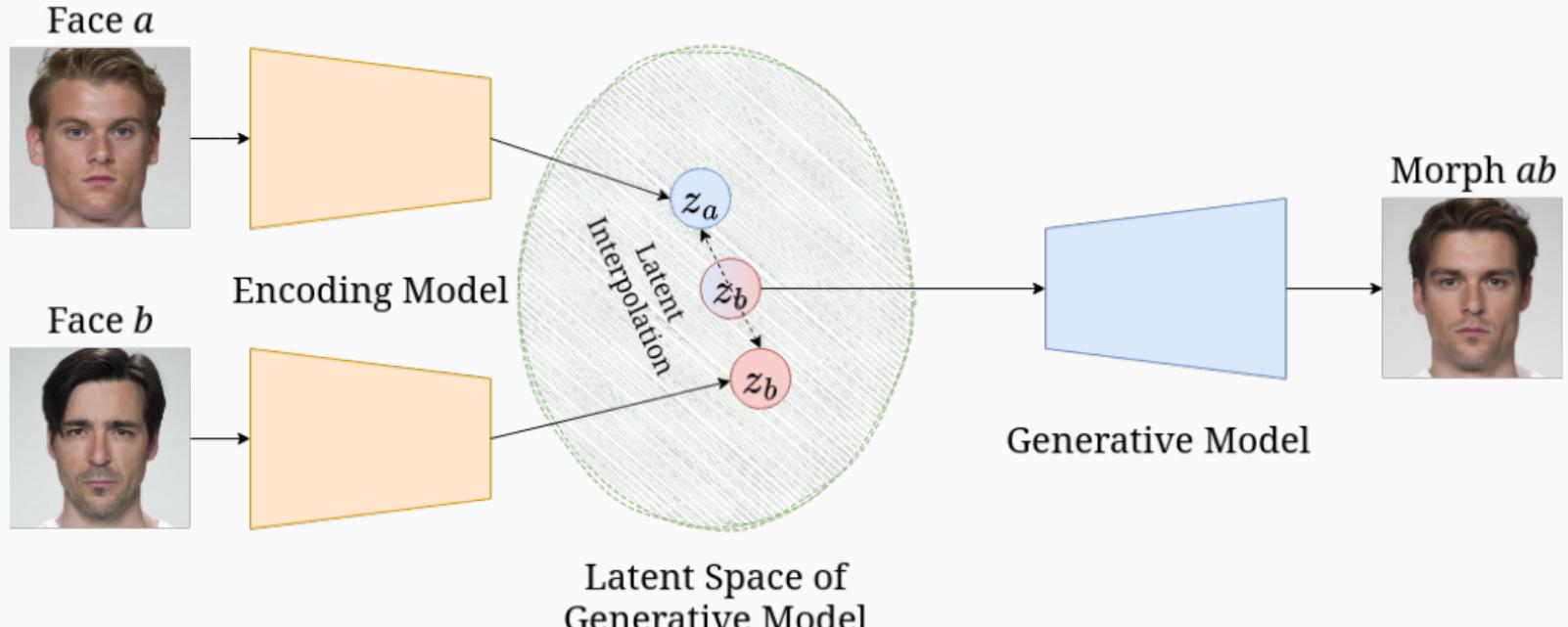


Figure 2: General morph creation pipeline using generative models.

Diffusion Process



- Forward diffusion process is governed by the Itô SDE

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = f(t)\mathbf{x}_t \, dt + g(t) \, d\mathbf{w}_t \quad (1)$$

where $\{\mathbf{w}_t\}_{t \in [0, T]}$ is the standard Wiener process on $[0, T]$

²Yang Song et al. "Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2021. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=PxTIG12RRHS>.

³Tim Salimans and Jonathan Ho. "Progressive Distillation for Fast Sampling of Diffusion Models". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2022. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=TIdIXIPzhoI>.

Diffusion Process



- The diffusion equation can be reversed with

$$d\mathbf{x}_t = [f(t)\mathbf{x}_t - g^2(t)\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)] dt + g(t) d\check{\mathbf{w}}_t \quad (2)$$

where $\check{\mathbf{w}}_t$ is the *backwards* Wiener process defined as $\check{\mathbf{w}}_t := \mathbf{w}_t - \mathbf{w}_T$

- The marginal distributions $p_t(\mathbf{x})$ follow an associated ODE known as the *probability flow* ODE²

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}_t}{dt} = f(t)\mathbf{x}_t - \frac{1}{2}g^2(t)\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) \quad (3)$$

²Yang Song et al. "Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2021. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=PxTIG12RRHS>.

³Tim Salimans and Jonathan Ho. "Progressive Distillation for Fast Sampling of Diffusion Models". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2022. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=TIdIXIpzhO1>.

Diffusion Process



- Often the Variance Preserving (VP) framework is used where the drift and diffusion coefficients are

$$f(t) = \frac{d \log \alpha_t}{dt} \quad (4)$$

$$g^2(t) = \frac{d \sigma_t^2}{dt} - 2 \frac{d \log \alpha_t}{dt} \sigma_t^2 \quad (5)$$

for some noise schedule α_t, σ_t

- Sampling the forward trajectory then simplifies to

$$\mathbf{x}_t = \alpha_t \mathbf{x}_0 + \sigma_t \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) \quad (6)$$

²Yang Song et al. "Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2021. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=PxTIG12RRHS>.

³Tim Salimans and Jonathan Ho. "Progressive Distillation for Fast Sampling of Diffusion Models". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2022. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=TIidIXIpzh0I>.

Diffusion Process



- Learning the score $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t)$ is similar to learning the noise ϵ

$$\epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \approx -\sigma_t \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \log p_t(\mathbf{x}_t) \quad (7)$$

or some other closely related quantity like \mathbf{x}_0 -prediction³

- Train a U-Net, $\epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$, to learn the added noise

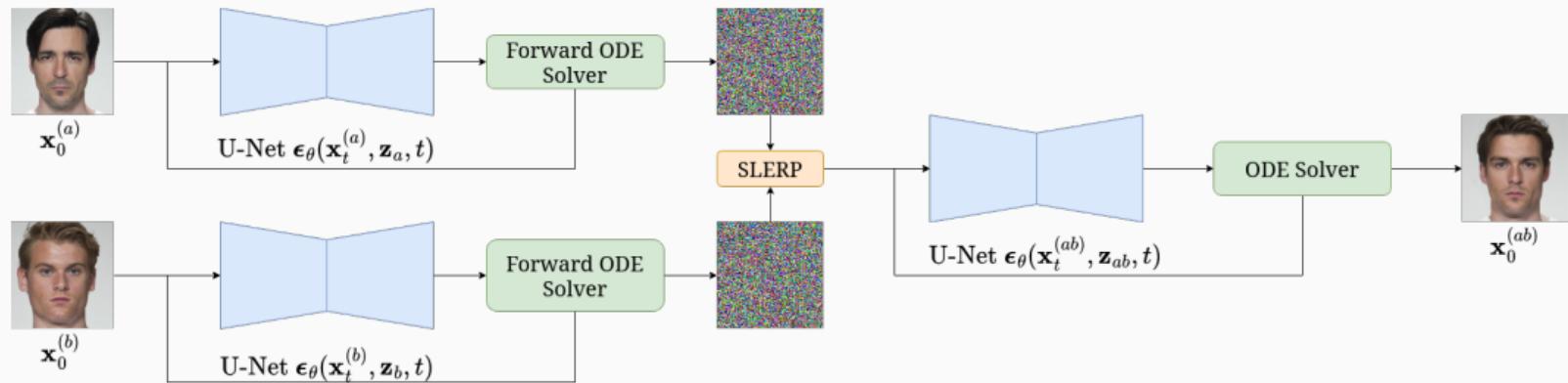
$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\substack{\mathbf{x}_0 \sim p(\mathbf{x}_0) \\ \epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})}} \left[\|\epsilon_t - \epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)\|_2^2 \right] \quad (8)$$

²Yang Song et al. "Score-Based Generative Modeling through Stochastic Differential Equations". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2021. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=PxTIG12RRHS>.

³Tim Salimans and Jonathan Ho. "Progressive Distillation for Fast Sampling of Diffusion Models". In: *International Conference on Learning Representations*. 2022. URL: <https://openreview.net/forum?id=TIdIXIpzhOI>.

Diffusion Morphs (DiM)

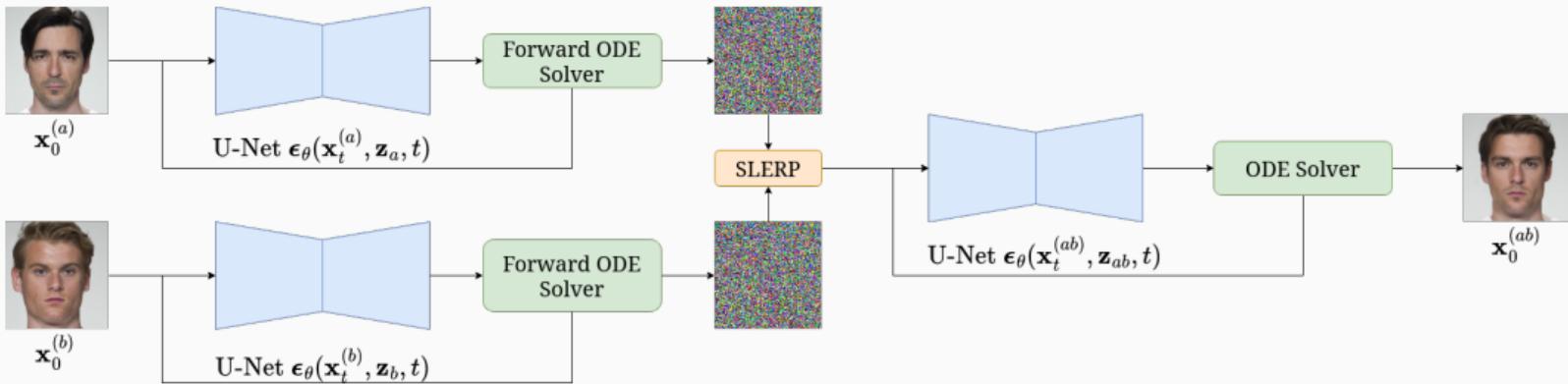
Face Morphing with Diffusion



- Encode bona fide images

$$\mathbf{z}_{\{a,b\}} = E(\mathbf{x}_0^{\{\{a,b\}\}}) \quad (9)$$

Face Morphing with Diffusion

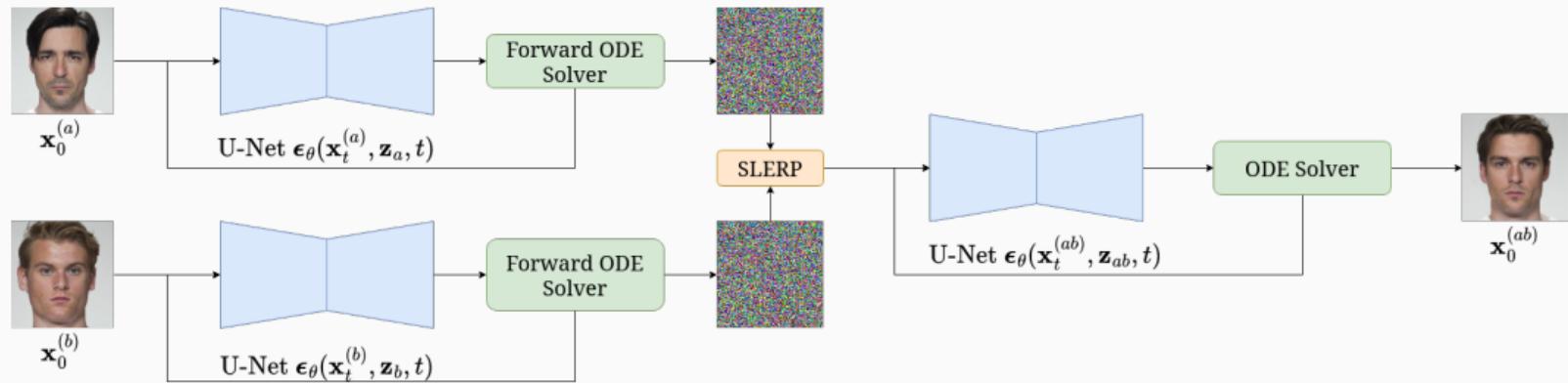


- Let $\Phi(\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{h}_\theta, \{t_n\}_{n=1}^N) \mapsto \mathbf{x}_T$ denote a numerical ODE solver with
 - Initial image \mathbf{x}_0
 - Latent representation of \mathbf{x}_0 , $\mathbf{z} = E(\mathbf{x}_0)$
 - Denoising U-Net conditioned on \mathbf{z} , $\epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{z}, t)$
 - The PF ODE given by

$$\mathbf{h}_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{z}, t) = f(t)\mathbf{x}_t + \frac{g^2(t)}{2\sigma_t} \epsilon_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{z}, t) \quad (10)$$

- N timesteps $\{t_n\}_{n=1}^N \subseteq [0, T]$

Face Morphing with Diffusion

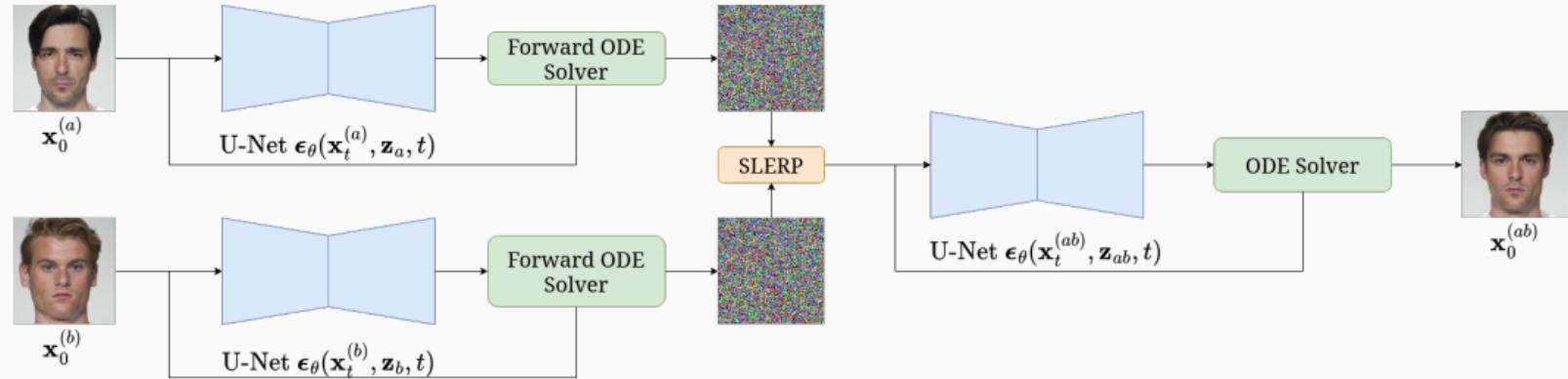


- Encode images solving the PF ODE as time runs *forwards*

$$\mathbf{x}_T^{\{\{a,b\}\}} = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0^{\{\{a,b\}\}}, \mathbf{z}_{\{a,b\}}, \mathbf{h}_\theta, \{t_n\}_{n=1}^{N_F}) \quad (11)$$

with N_F encoding steps and $t_n < t_{n+1}$

Face Morphing with Diffusion



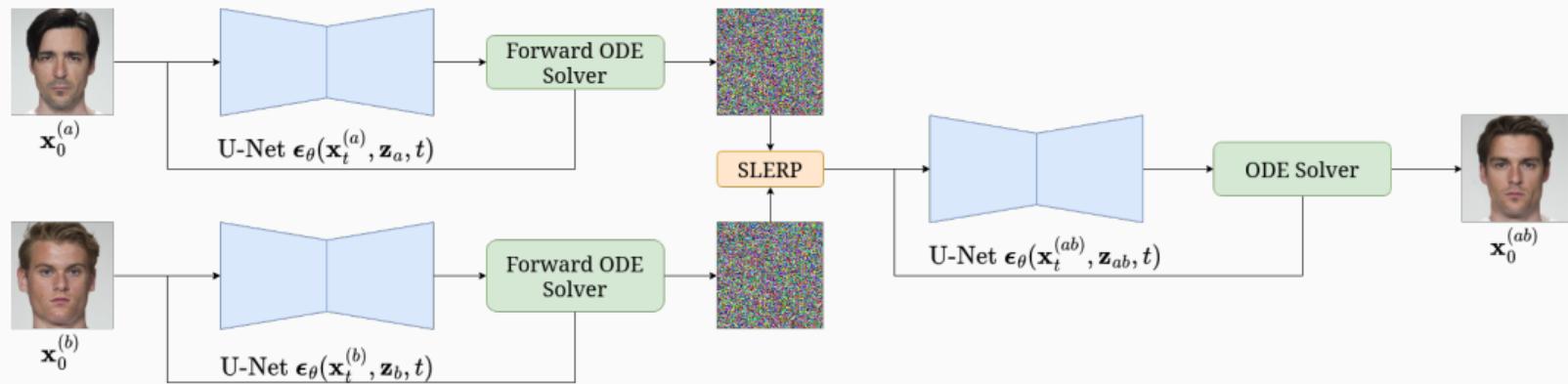
- Morph the latent representations

$$\mathbf{x}_T^{(ab)} = \text{slerp}(\mathbf{x}_T^{(a)}, \mathbf{x}_T^{(b)}; \gamma) \quad (12)$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{ab} = \text{lerp}(\mathbf{z}_a, \mathbf{z}_b; \gamma) \quad (13)$$

by a factor of $\gamma = 0.5$

Face Morphing with Diffusion



- Create morph by solving the PF ODE as time runs *backwards*

$$\mathbf{x}_0^{(ab)} = \Phi(\mathbf{x}_T^{(ab)}, \mathbf{z}_{ab}, \mathbf{h}_\theta, \{\tilde{t}_n\}_{n=1}^N) \quad (14)$$

with N sampling steps and $\tilde{t}_n > \tilde{t}_{n+1}$

Visual Comparison to Other Morphing Attacks

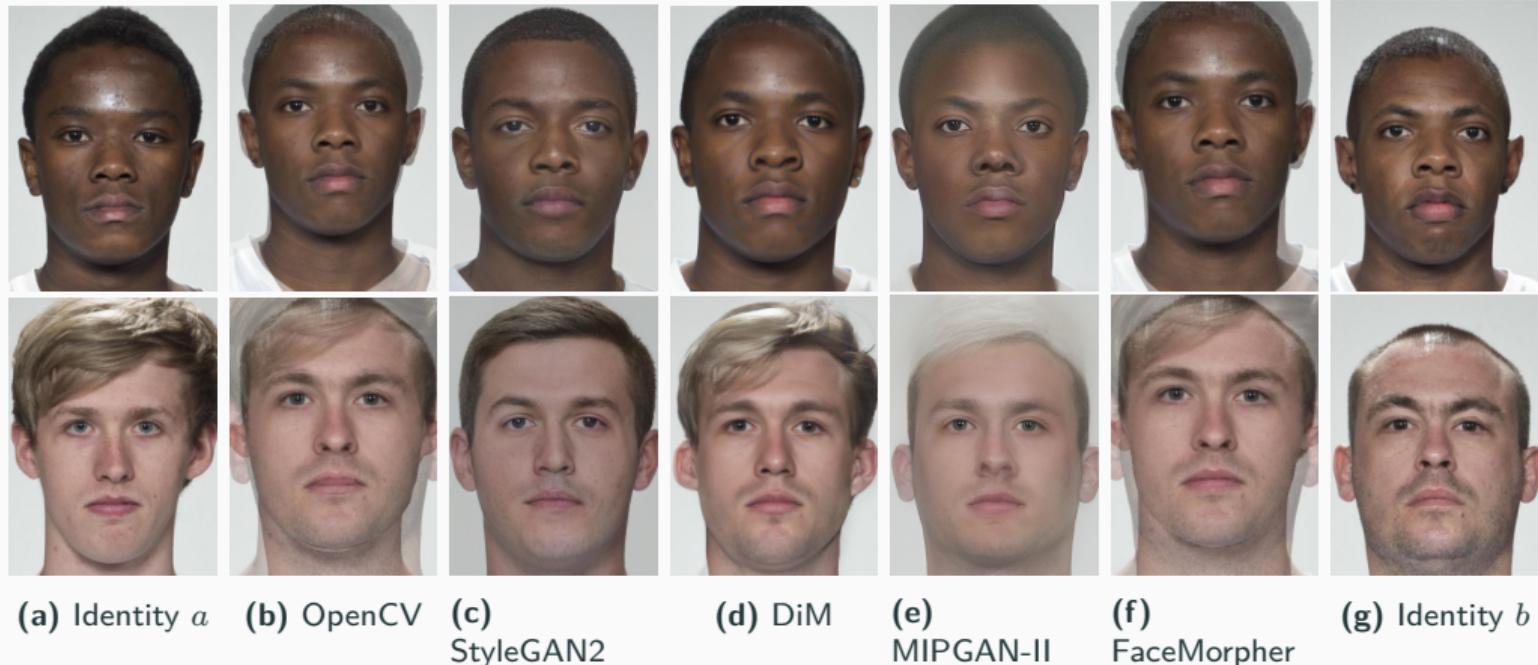


Figure 3: Comparison across different morphing algorithms of two identity pairs from the FRLL dataset.

Quantitative Comparison

Table 1: Vulnerability of different FR systems across different morphing attacks on the SYN-MAD 2022 dataset. FMR = 0.1%.

Morphing Attack	MMPMR (\uparrow)		
	AdaFace [8]	ArcFace [6]	ElasticFace [4]
FaceMorpher [7]	89.78	87.73	89.57
OpenCV [7]	94.48	92.43	94.27
MIPGAN-I [13]	72.19	77.51	66.46
MIPGAN-II [13]	70.55	72.19	65.24
DiM [3]	92.23	90.18	93.05

- Mated Morph Presentation Match Rate (MMPMR)

$$M(\delta) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{n=1}^M \left\{ \left[\min_{m \in \{1, \dots, N_m\}} S_m^n \right] > \delta \right\} \quad (15)$$

where δ is the verification threshold, S_m^n is the similarity score of the n -th subject of morph m , N_m is the total number of contributing subjects to morph m , and M is the total number of morphed images.

Ablation Study

Table 2: Ablation study on the ability to detect morphing attacks.

Dataset	Included in the Training Set					Detection Accuracy (\downarrow)				
	DiM	FaceMorpher	MIPGAN-II	OpenCV	StyleGAN2	DiM	FaceMorpher	MIPGAN-II	OpenCV	StyleGAN2
FERET [9]	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	72.73	99.23	100	99.95	99.33
	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	99.9	76.39	100	99.85	99.64
	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	99.69	99.38	100	99.95	99.54
	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	99.74	99.48	100	99.74	99.43
	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	99.74	98.56	99.9	99.74	87.89
FRGC [10]	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	75.89	99.98	99.97	99.9	99.93
	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	99.95	99.48	100	99.9	99.95
	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	99.83	99.85	99.82	99.8	99.85
	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	99.93	100	100	99.23	99.93
	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	99.93	99.93	99.94	99.88	97.83
FRLL [5]	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	13.96	99.58	99.32	99.65	99.65
	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	99.23	99.09	98.91	99.37	99.44
	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	99.09	98.95	98.24	99.02	99.09
	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	99.51	99.44	99.19	99.16	99.58
	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	99.93	99.86	99.86	99.93	95.02

Conclusions

- DiM creates morphs with high visual fidelity
- DiM outperforms GAN-based morphs
- DiM is difficult to detect if not explicitly trained against
- Flexible generation due to iterative nature
- Slow inference speed due to multiple iterations

Related Work

Since our initial work there have been several extensions and improvements on DiM

Fast-DiM⁴ High-order ODE solvers for faster sampling, reduces NFE from 350 to 150

Morph-PIPE⁵ Brute force search for optimal γ w.r.t. an identity loss, increased MMPMR

Greedy-DiM⁶ Greedy guided generation for DiM, 100% MMPMR on SYN-MAD 22

⁴Zander W. Blasingame and Chen Liu. "Fast-DiM: Towards Fast Diffusion Morphs". In: *IEEE Security & Privacy* (2024), pp. 2–13. DOI: 10.1109/MSEC.2024.3410112.

⁵Haoyu Zhang et al. "Morph-PIPE: Plugging in Identity Prior to Enhance Face Morphing Attack Based on Diffusion Model". In: *Norwegian Information Security Conference (NISK)*. 2023.

⁶Zander W. Blasingame and Chen Liu. "Greedy-DiM: Greedy Algorithms for Unreasonably Effective Face Morphs". In: *arXiv e-prints*, arXiv:2404.06025 (Apr. 2024), arXiv:2404.06025. DOI: 10.48550/arXiv.2404.06025. arXiv: 2404.06025 [cs.CV].

Questions?



Code and project page for DiM



Further reading on DiM

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