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# De-identifying biometric images for enhancing privacy and security

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*[Work done with Asem Othman]*

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# Biometric Data Storage

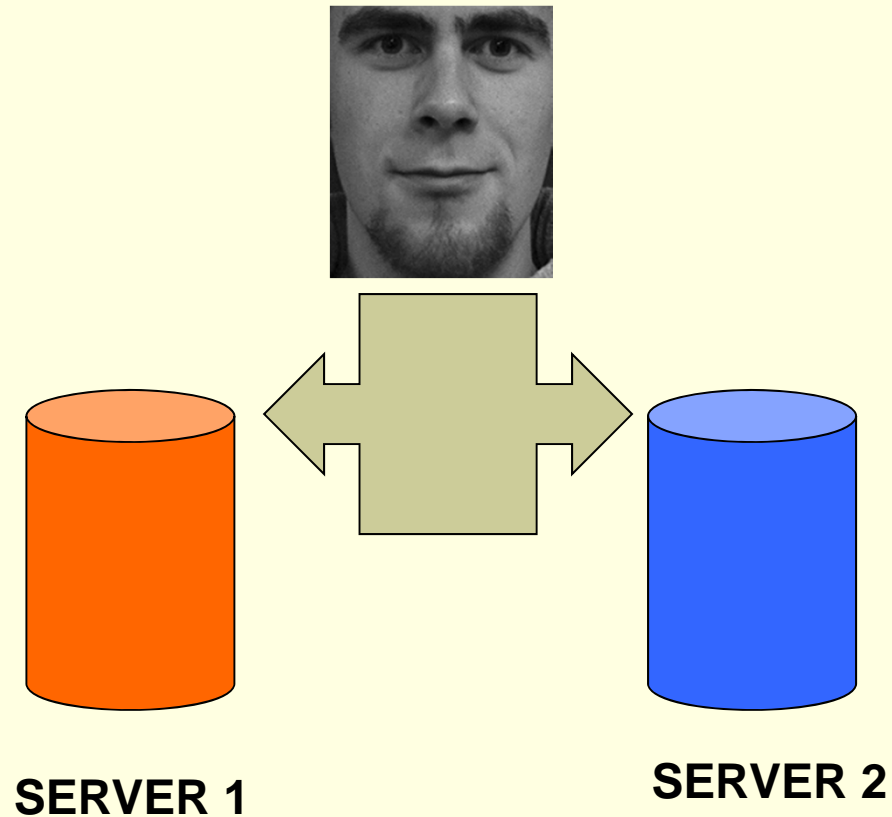
- Biometric data of an individual is sometimes stored in a **central** database
- Raises issues related to **security** and **privacy** of biometric data
  - Unlike compromised passwords, it is difficult to **re-issue** biometric data
  - **Cross-database matching** may be done to track individuals
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


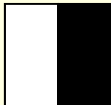






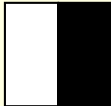





$$T = S_{h_1} \oplus S_{h_2} \oplus S_{h_3} \oplus \dots \oplus S_{h_k}$$

where  $\oplus$  is a Boolean operation,  $S_{h_i}$  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

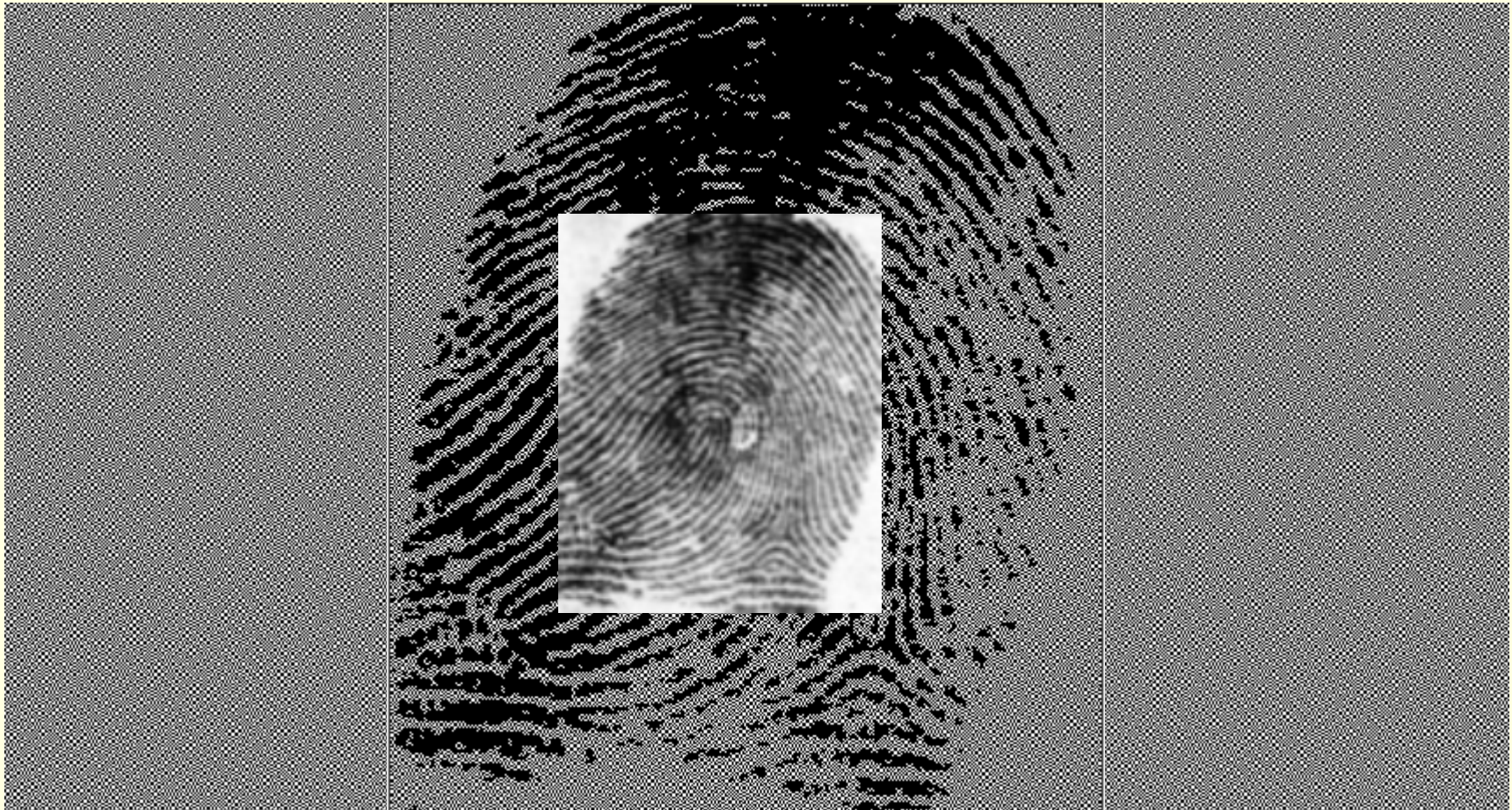
\* M. Naor and A. Shamir, "Visual cryptography," in EUROCRYPT, pp. 1–12, 1994.

# 2-out-of-2 VCS

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

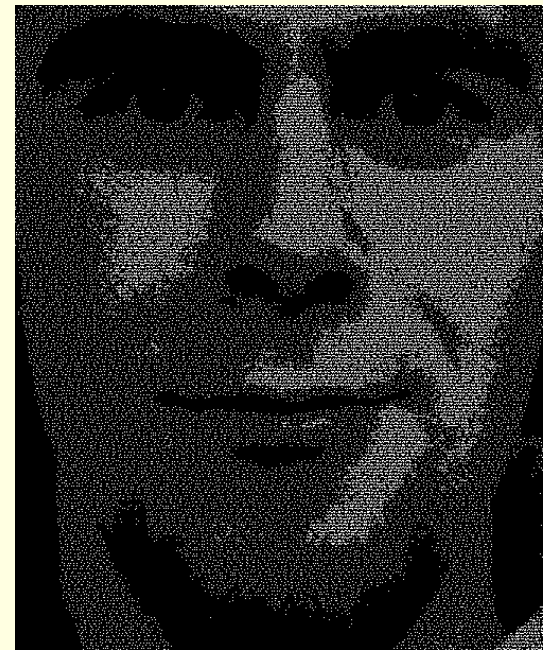
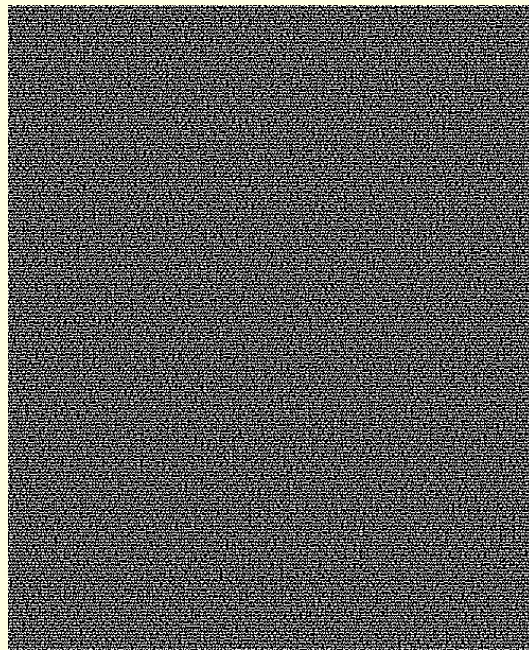
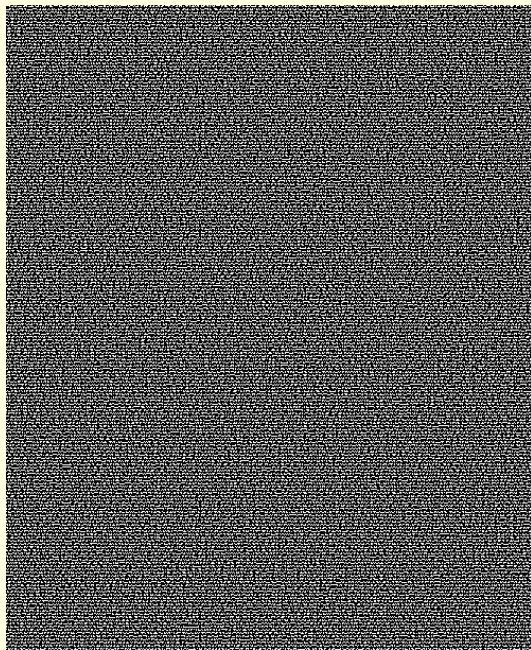
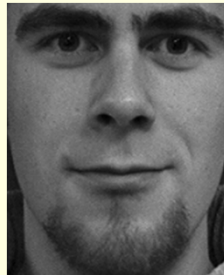
# Sharing a secret image: Binary

- 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

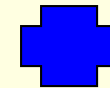
**Actual Face**



=



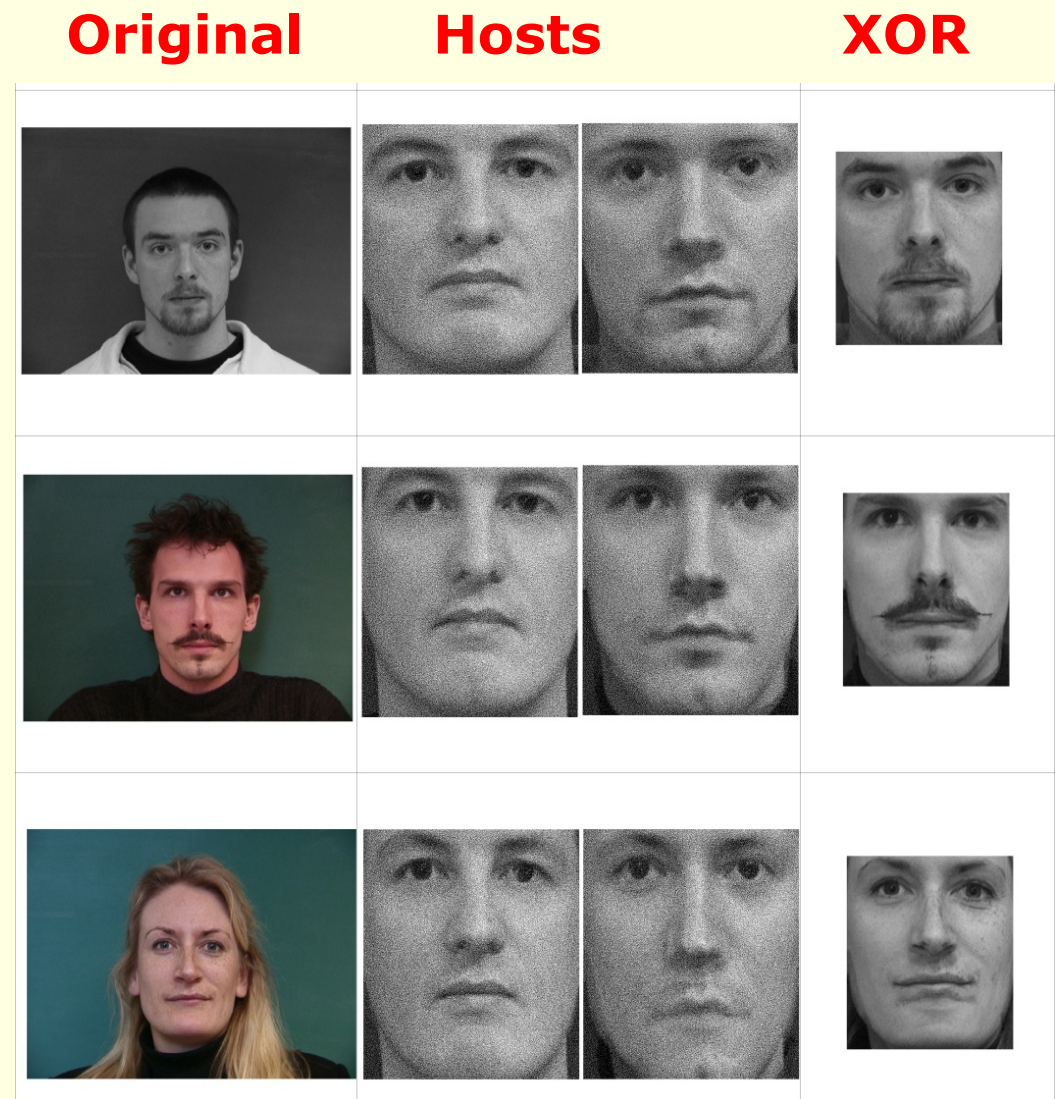
**HOST IMAGE 1**



**HOST IMAGE 2**

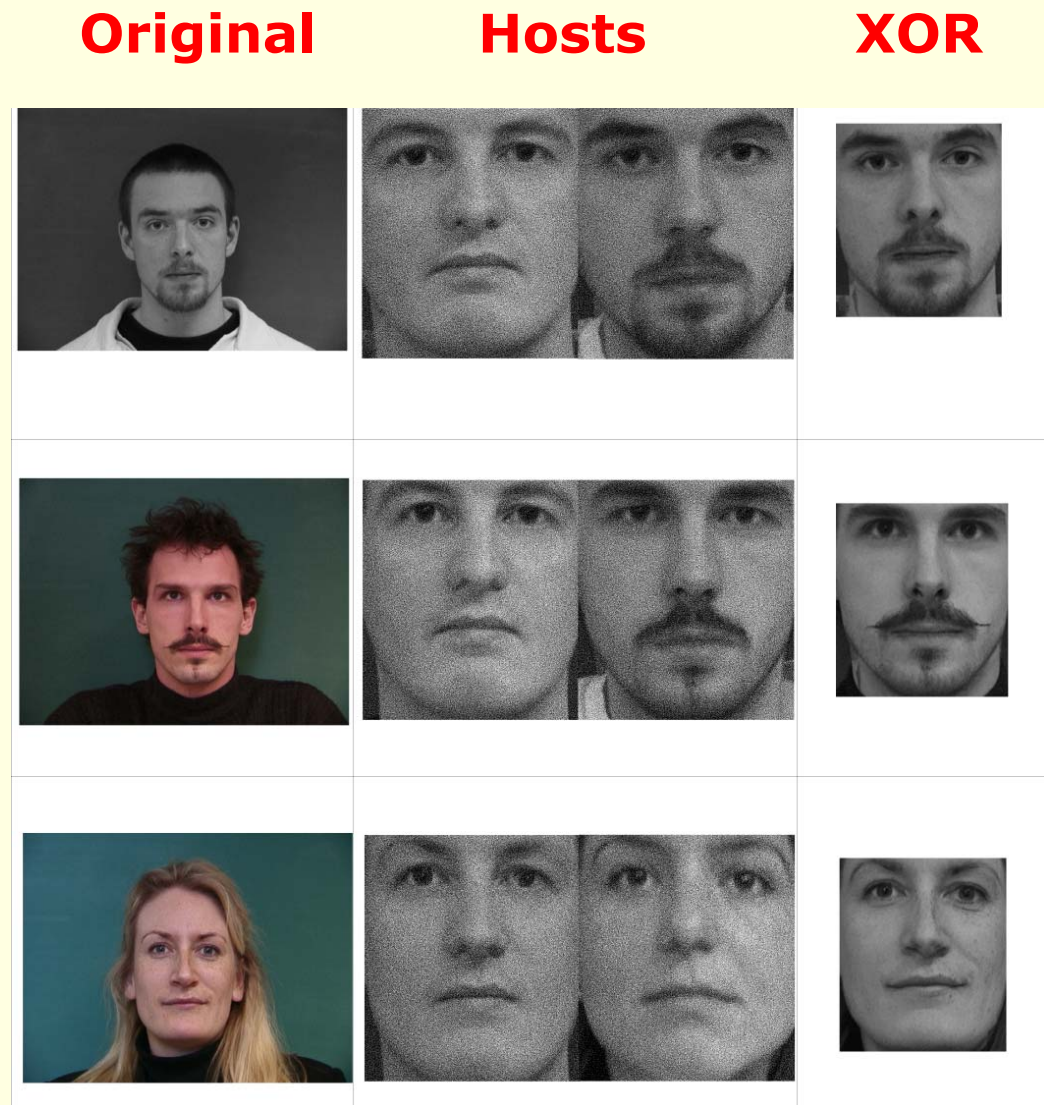
# Two fixed host images

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



# Automated Host Image Selection

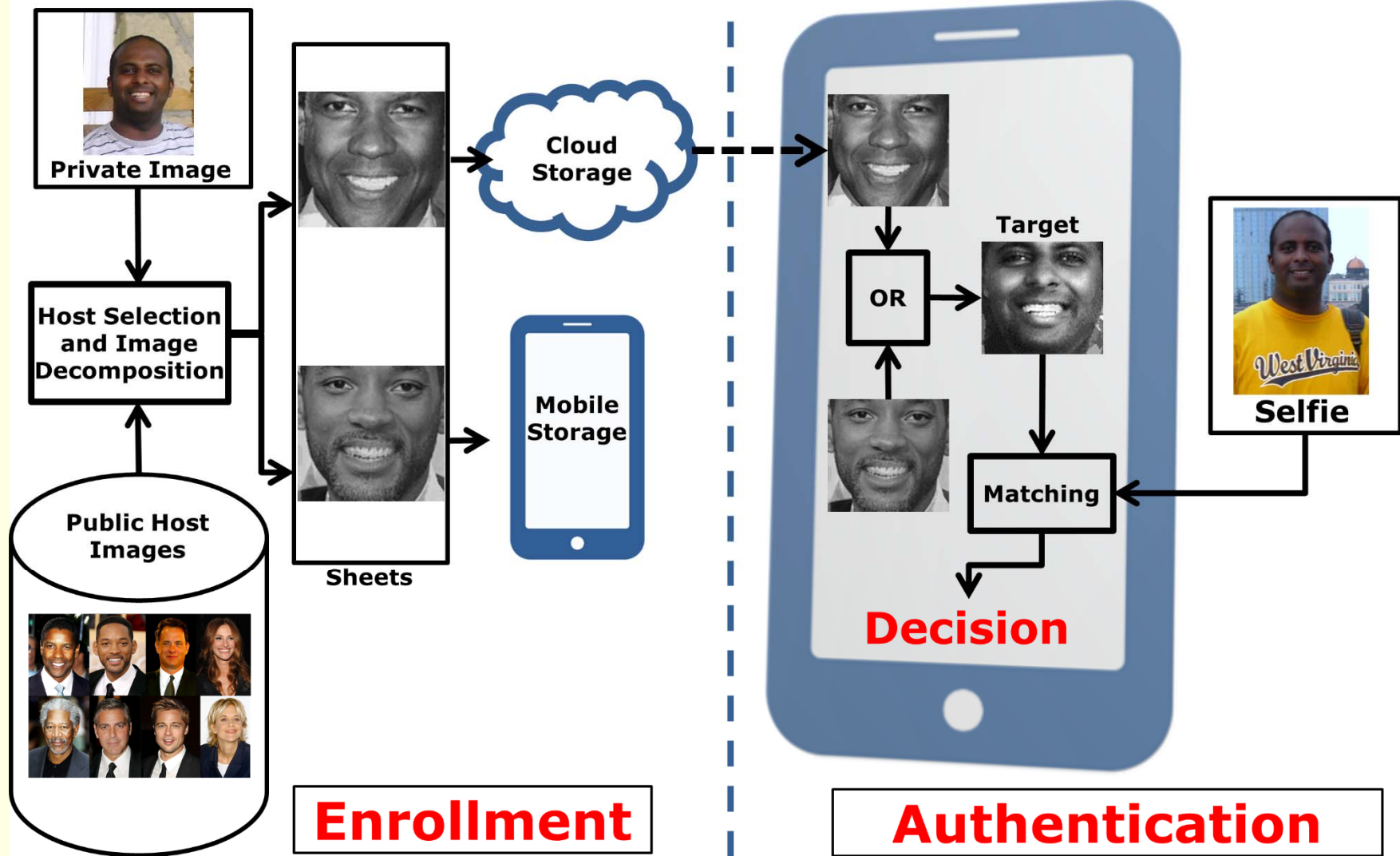
- The original image is encrypted into two **dynamically selected host images**



# 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

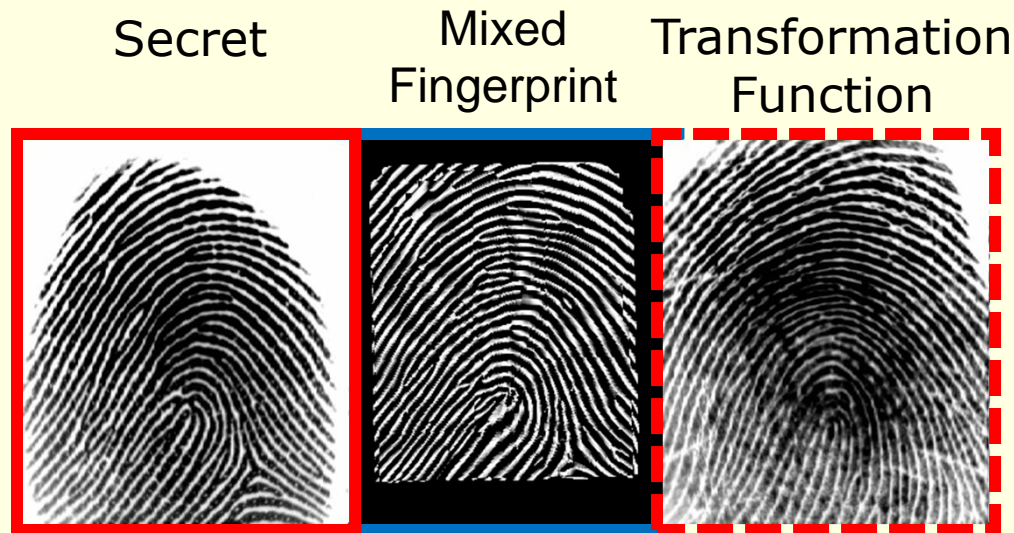


# Mixing Fingerprints

- 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**

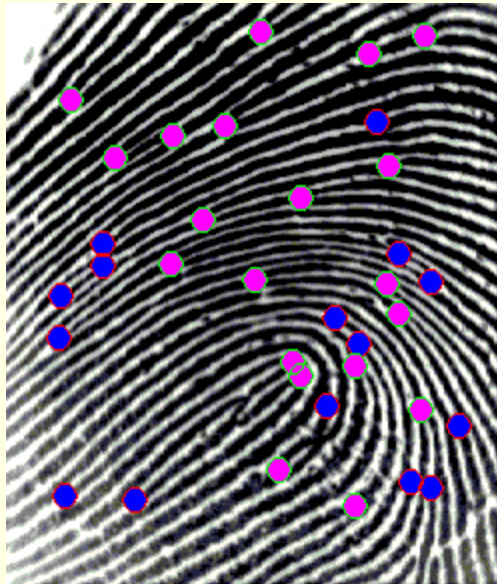
# Helmholtz Decomposition

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

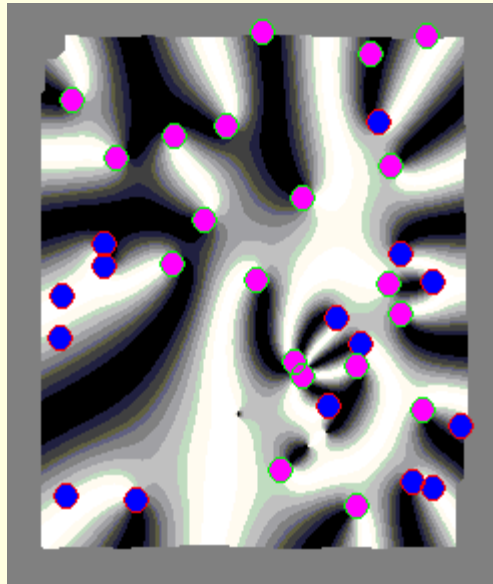
$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \Psi_c(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) + \Psi_s(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

- 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  $\Psi_{c_i}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  and  $\Psi_{s_i}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  be the pre-aligned continuous and spiral phases,  $i = 1, 2$ .

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

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

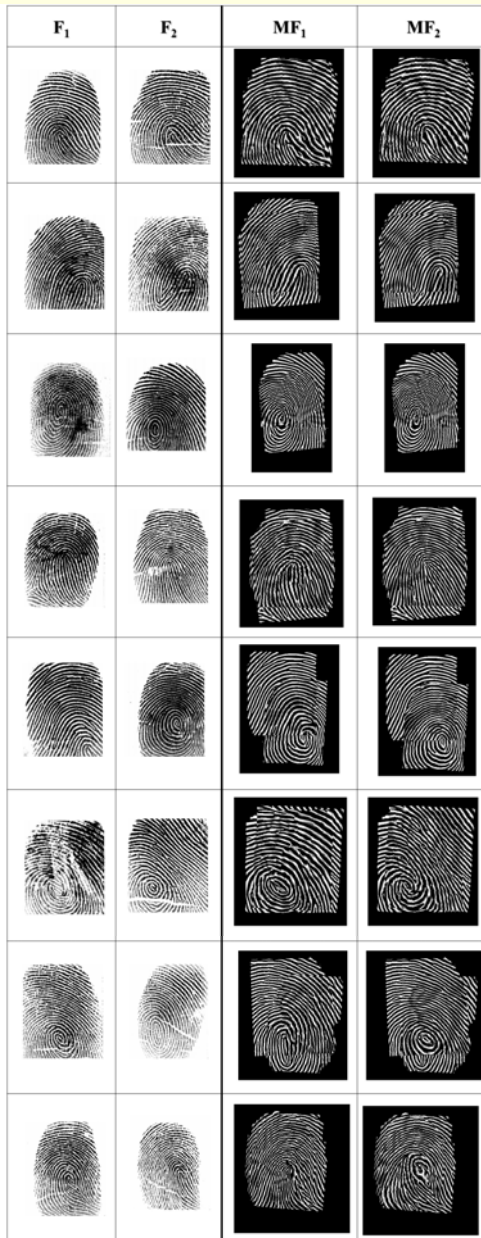
- The continuous phase of  $F_2$  is combined with the spiral phase of  $F_1$  which generates a new fused fingerprint image  $MF_1$

# Mixed Fingerprint Images

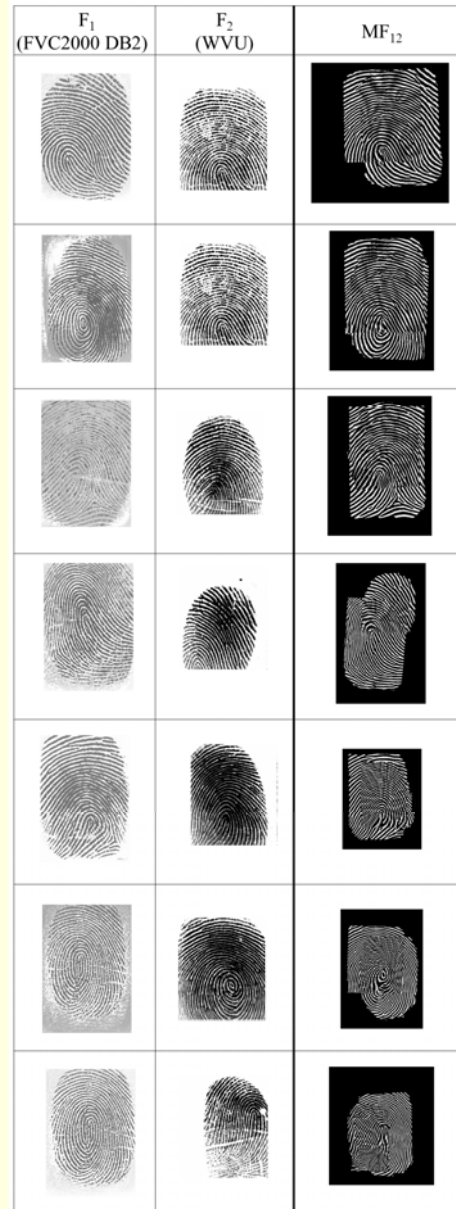
$F_1$ (FVC2000 DB2)	$F_2$ (WVU)	$MF_1$
		
		
		
		

# 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



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