

# Using Challenge Problems To Accelerate Biometric Technology

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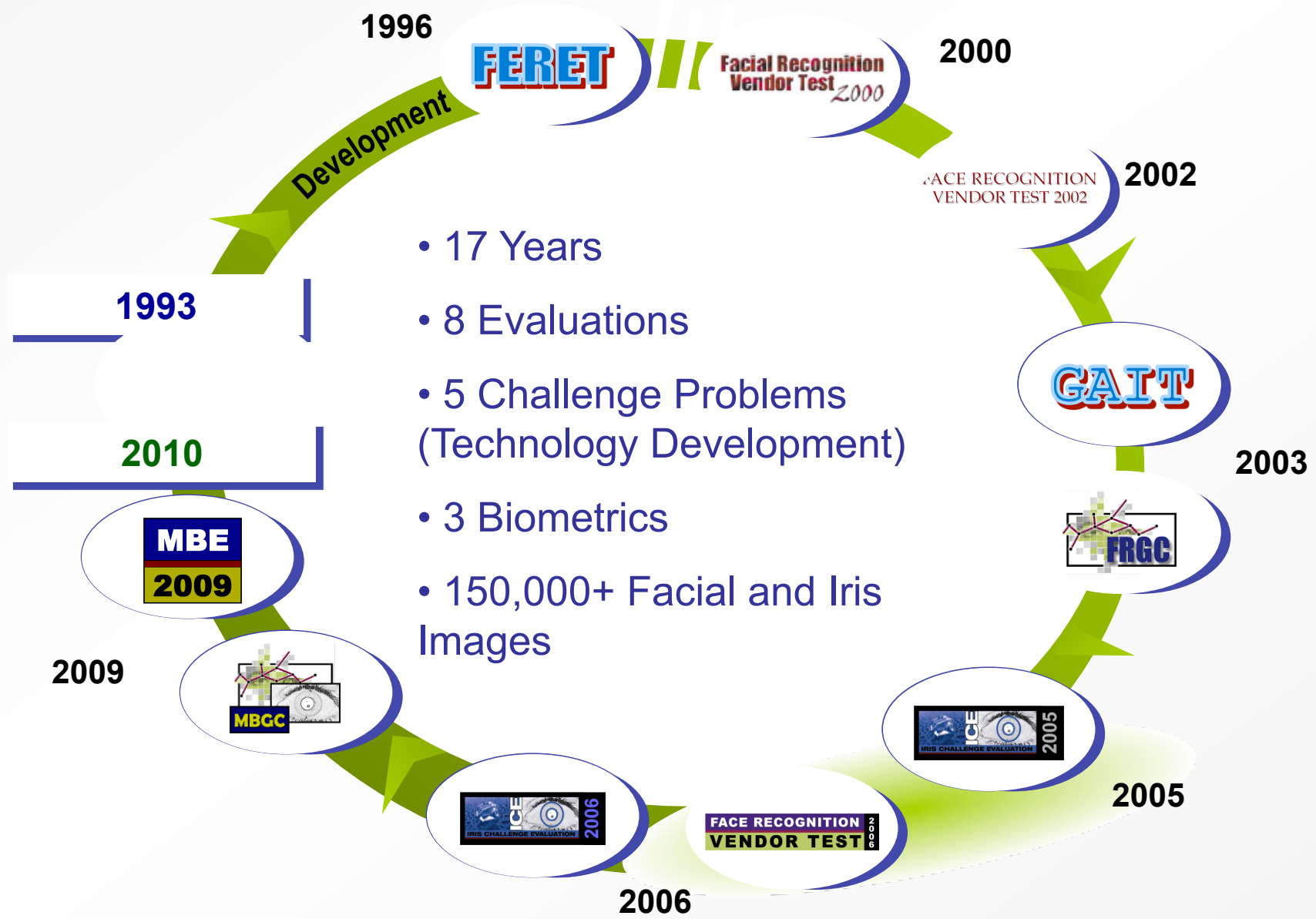
NIST

National Institute of  
Standards and Technology

NIST

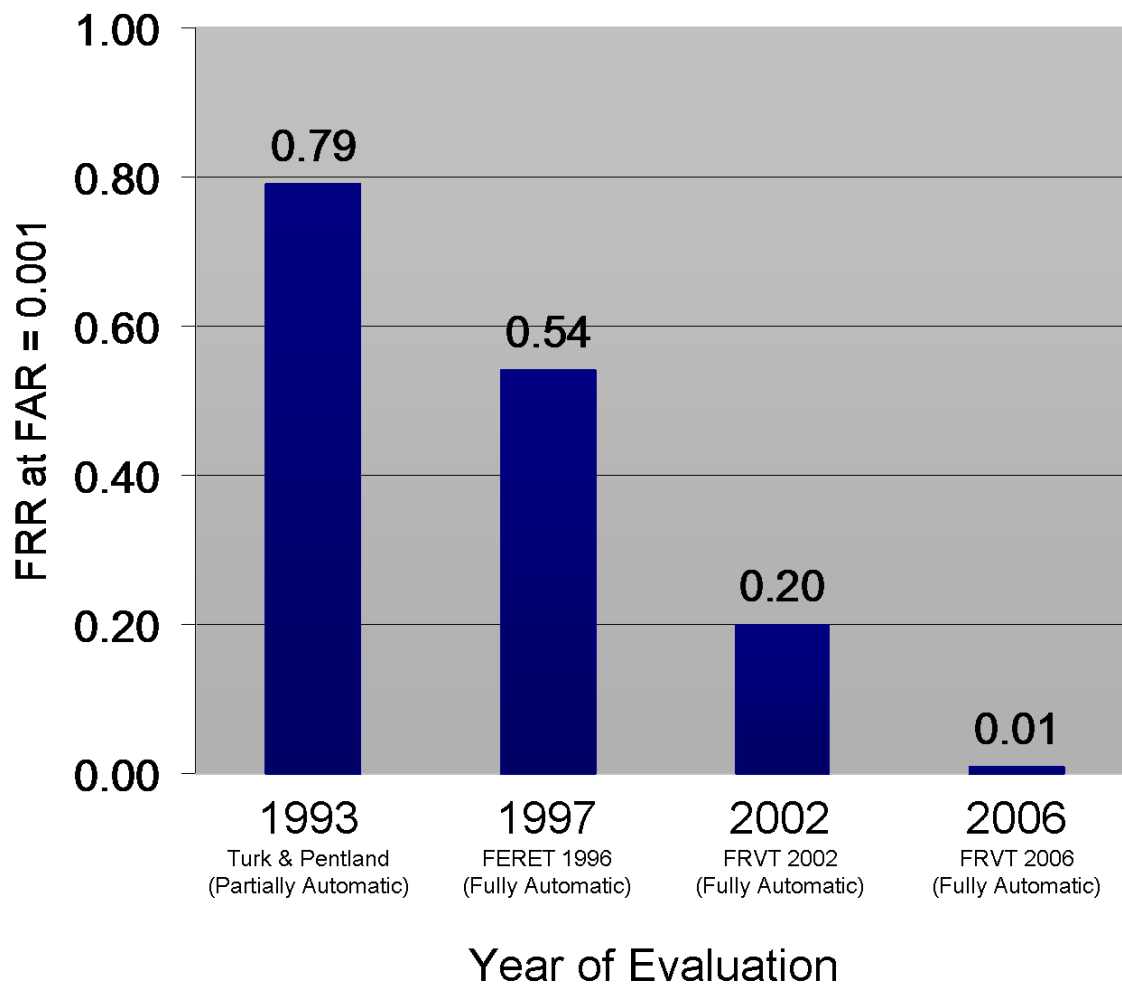
*...working with industry to foster innovation, trade, security and jobs*

# Technology Progress



# Improved FR Performance

## Face Recognition Error Rate



Single Still  
Controlled  
Different Days

# Advancing Technology and Methodology

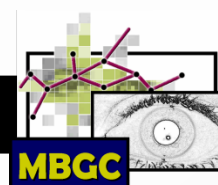
**Programatics**

Data  
Collection

Challenge  
Problems

Evaluations

**Technology**

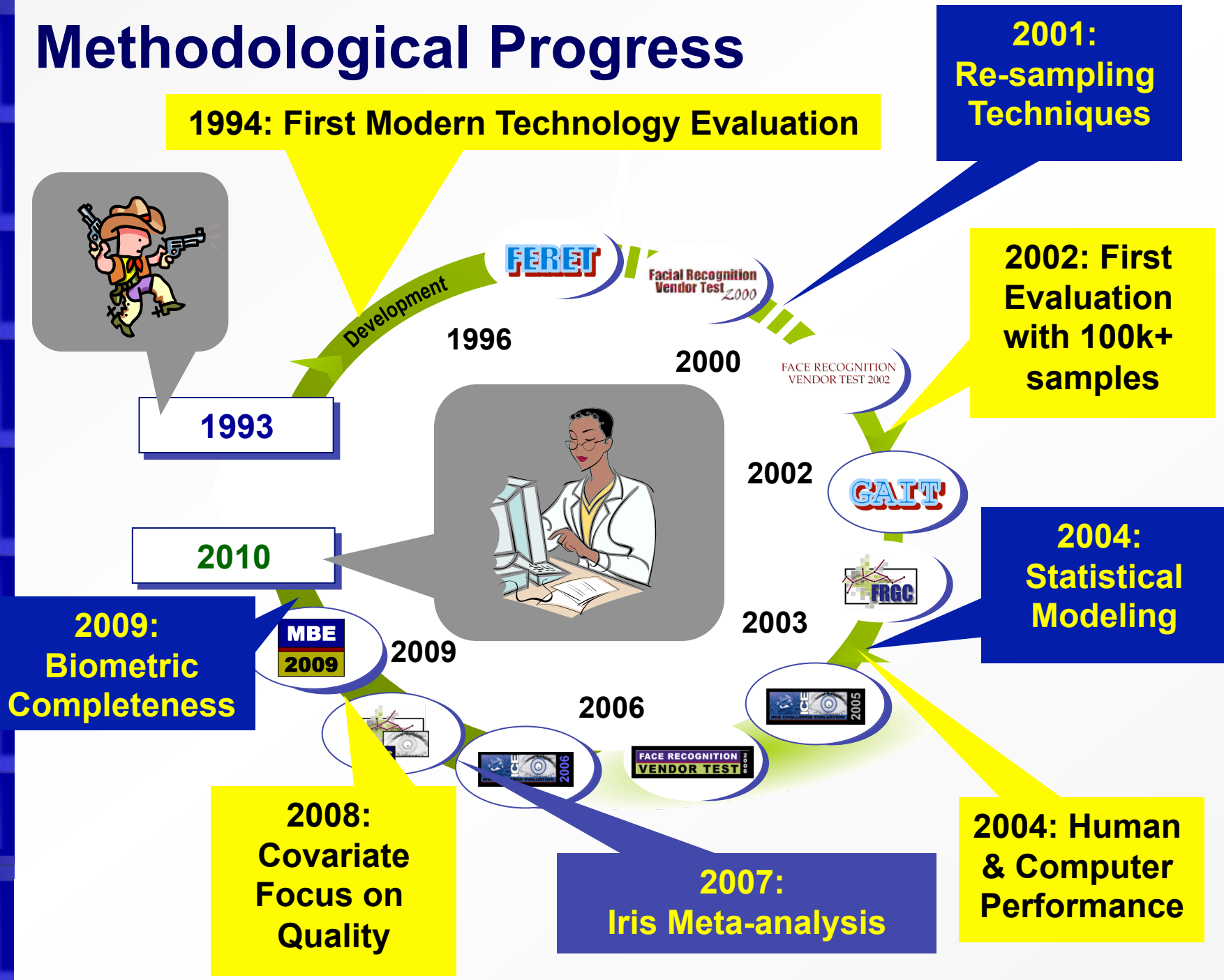


**Methodology**

Advanced  
Statistical  
Analysis

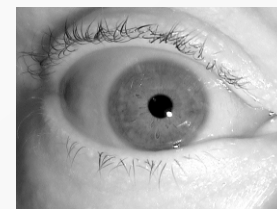
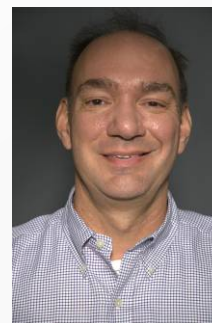
Human  
Vs  
Computer

# Methodological Progress



# Challenge Problems

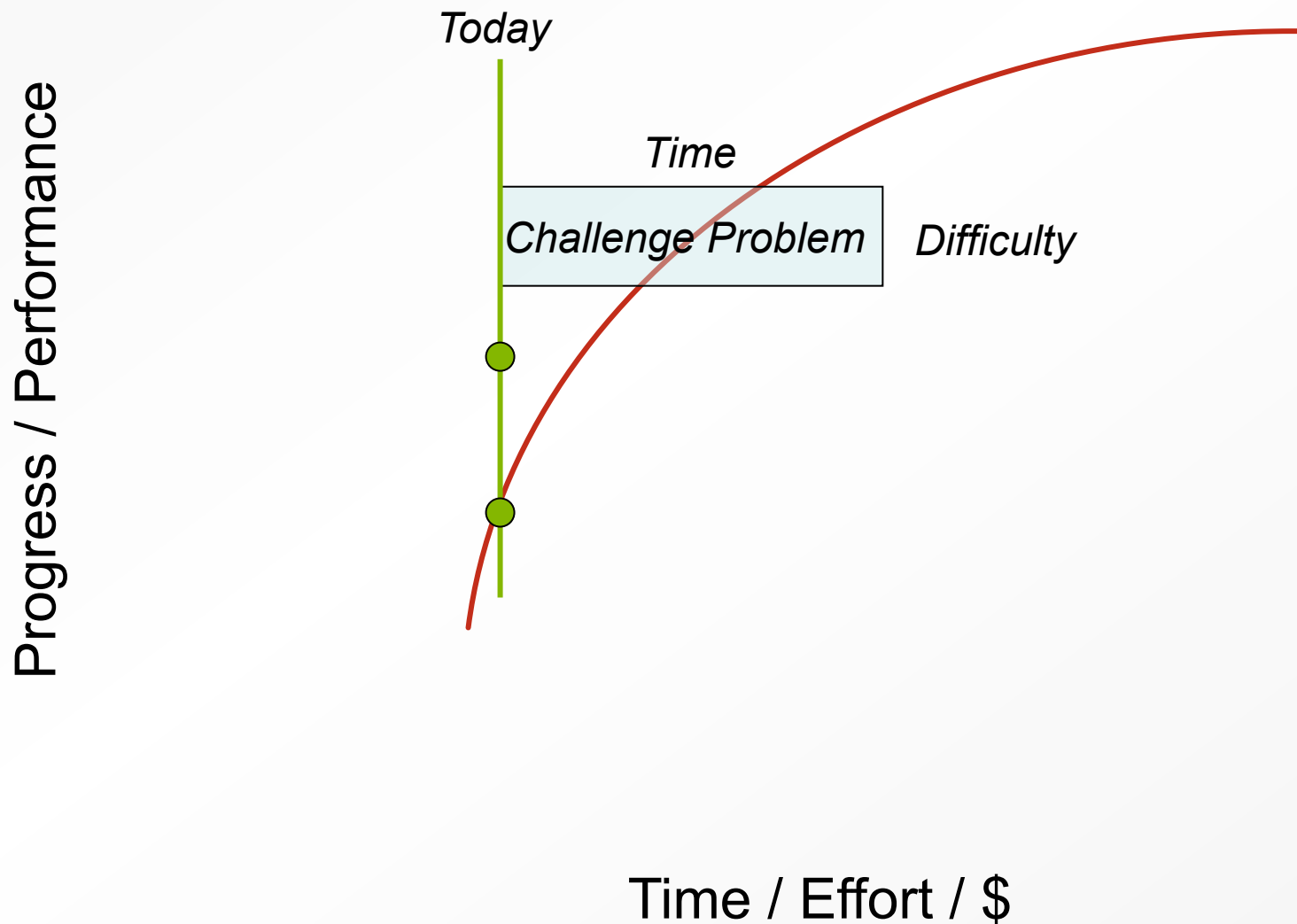
- What are challenge problems?
  - A series of experiments designed to advance a technology's state-of-the-art
    - Experiments designed
    - Experiments and test data distributed to researchers
    - Researchers complete experiments and submit results
    - Scores are consolidated and reported
  - Introduction of new technology



# What Is A Challenge Problem?

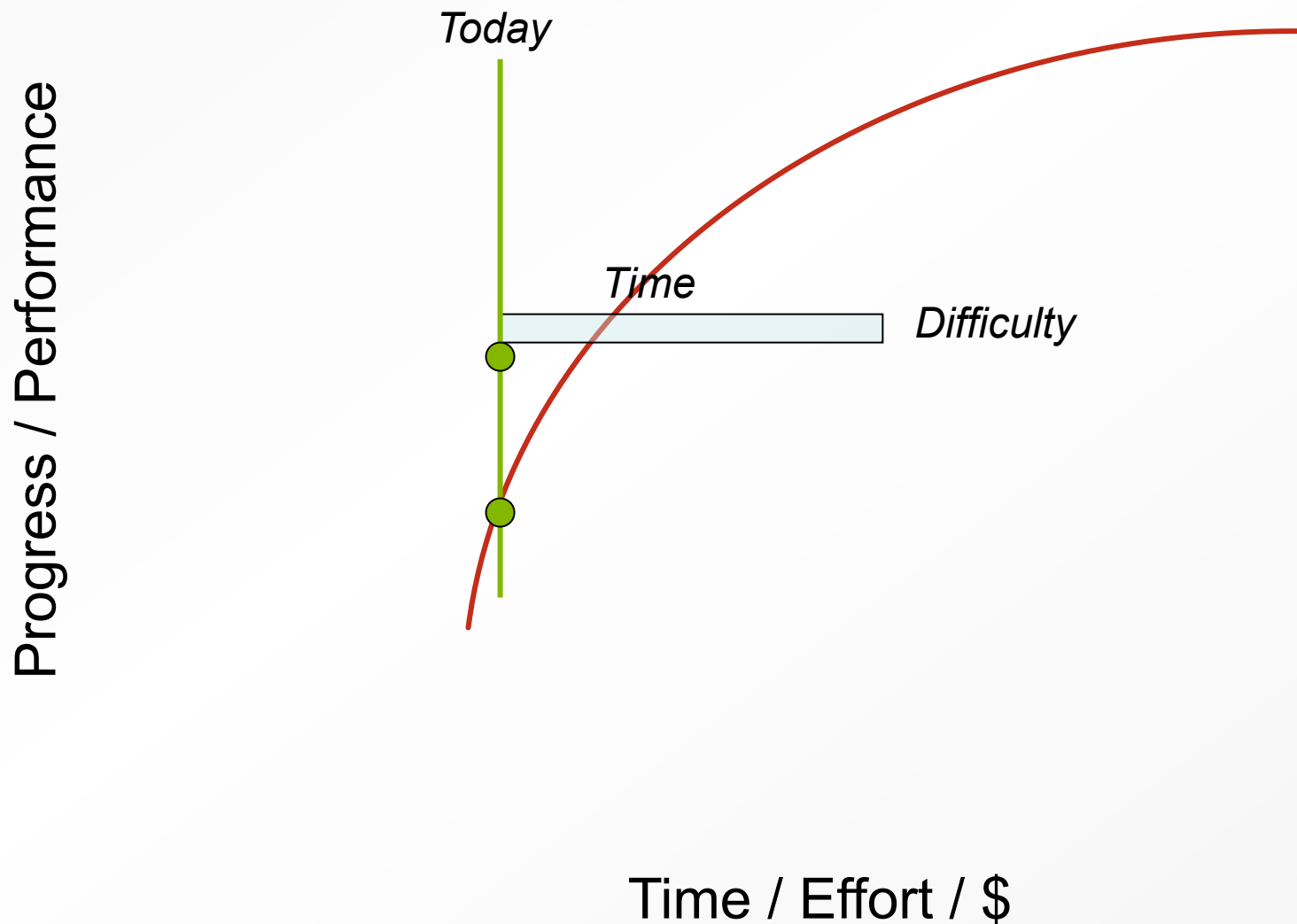
- Challenge Problem
  - Open book
- Components—made available to participants
  - Data sets
  - Experiments
  - Ground truth
  - Baseline algorithm
- Similarity Matrices Submitted
  - Generated by participants
  - Scored by NIST
- NOT an independent Evaluation
  - NO sequestered data

# Ideal Challenge Problem

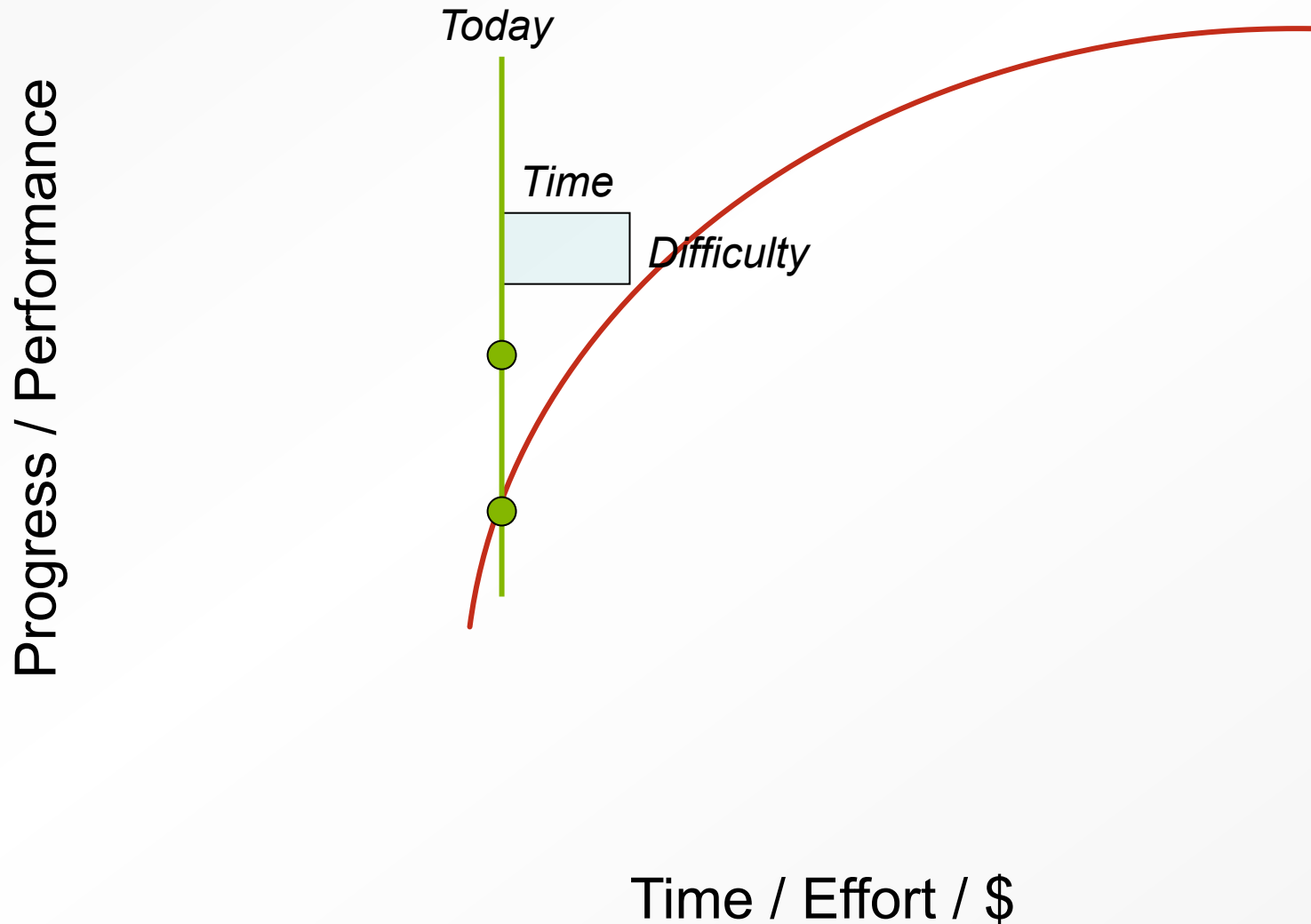




# Challenge Problem Sin: Too Easy



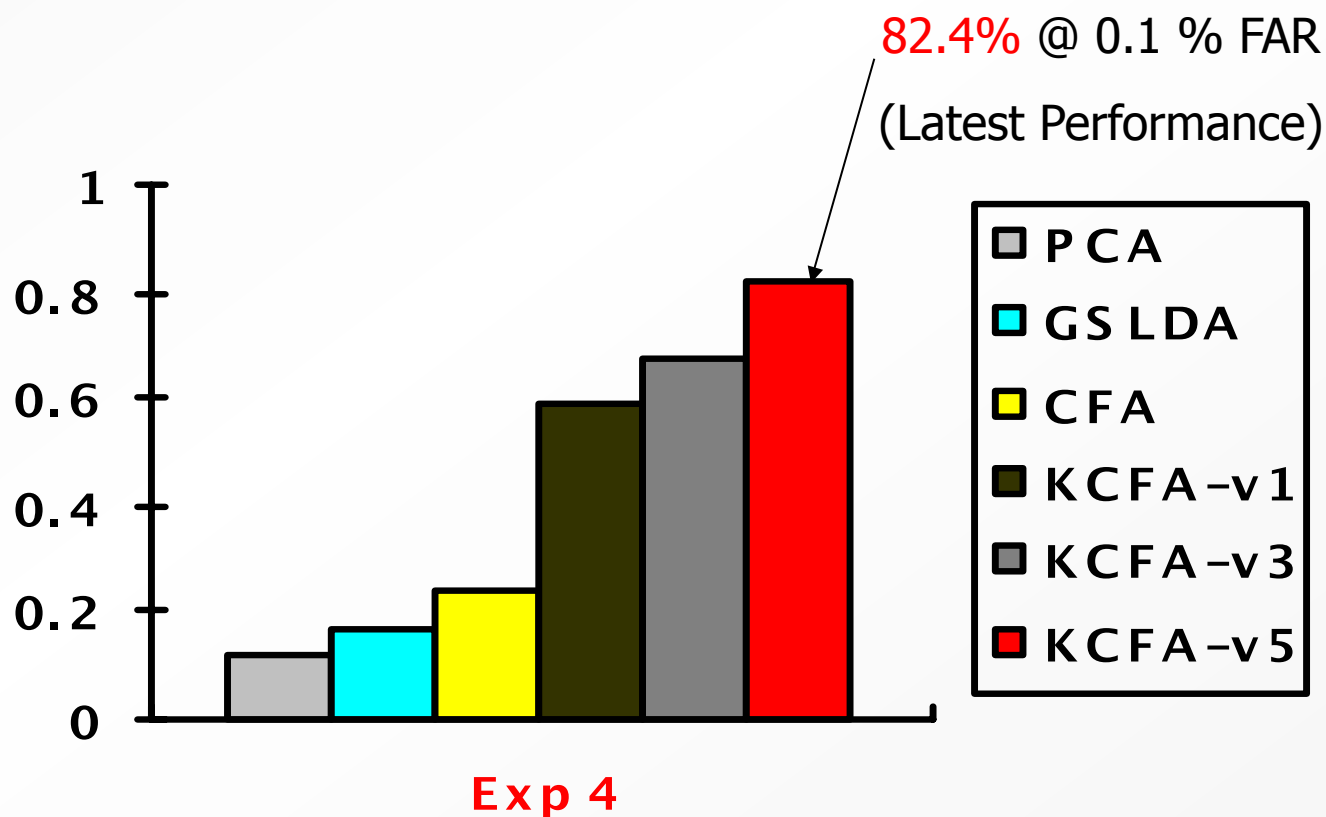
# Challenge Problem Sin: Too Little Time



# Evidence of Progress through FRGC

*Carnegie Mellon Innovation*

Verification Rates



# Building a Challenge

- Goals—Simple and grandiose
- Setting goals—Cheat
- Complete infrastructure for challenge problems
- Open to all

# Expanding Technology

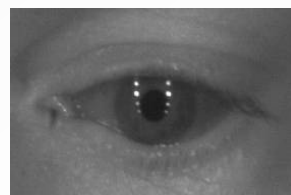
# What Does Expanding Technology Do For You?

- Development of new or improved technology
- Focus research on challenge problem
- Large community working on problem
- Solutions from novel approaches

# Portal Recognition Cont.



120 pixels  
across iris



2k



2k



Near Infrared (NIR) Video Sequence



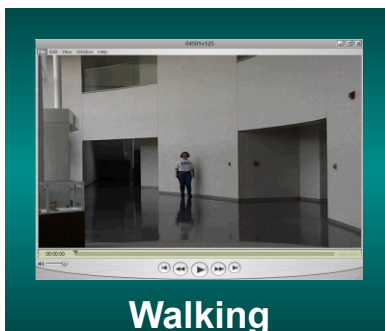
High Definition (HD) Video Sequence

# Example of Expanding Technology: Recognition from Unconstrained Video

- Still versus Video



- Video versus Video



**Walking**



**Conversation**



**Uncontrolled Face**

Still



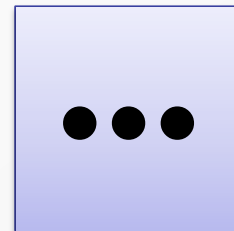
**Face Video**



# Expanding Science

# What Does Expanding Science Do For You?

- Increases fundamental knowledge of biometric modalities.
- Human and computer performance
- Covariate analysis
- Analysis of results on large data set
- Underlying properties of a biometric

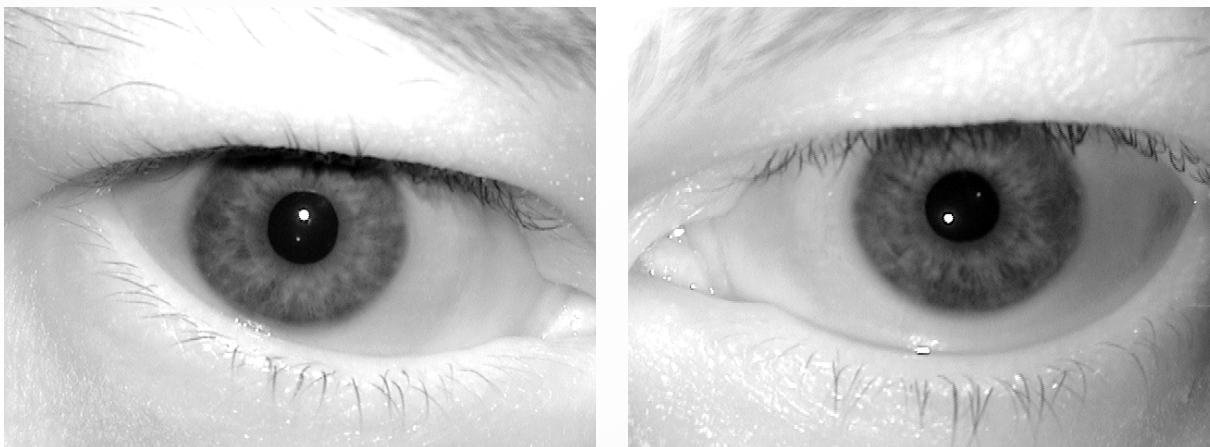


# Example of Expanding Science: Iris Biometric Stability

“Empirical Evidence for Iris Match Score Degradation with Time Lapse in ICE 2006” S. Baker, P. J. Flynn, K. W. Bowyer, and Dr. P. Jonathon Phillips, *NISTIR 7630*, 2009

# Motivation

- **Iris biometrics assumption: The iris is stable throughout one's life. Is this claim accurate?**



# Introduction

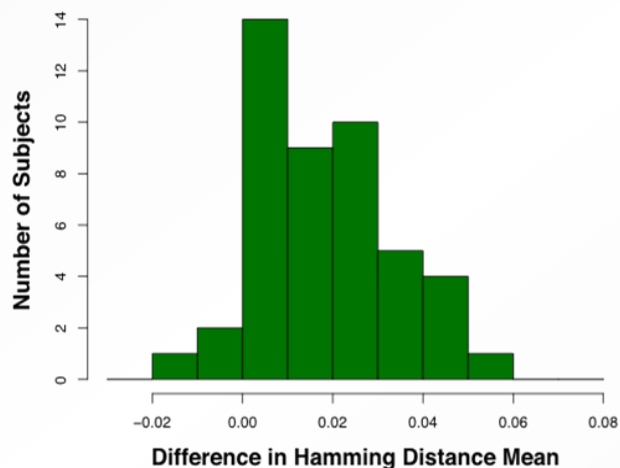
- 23 subjects
  - 46 irises
  - Collected 2004 through 2008.
- Three iris recognition algorithms
  - IrisBee baseline algorithm
  - ICE 2006 Algorithm B
  - VeriEye

# Experiment

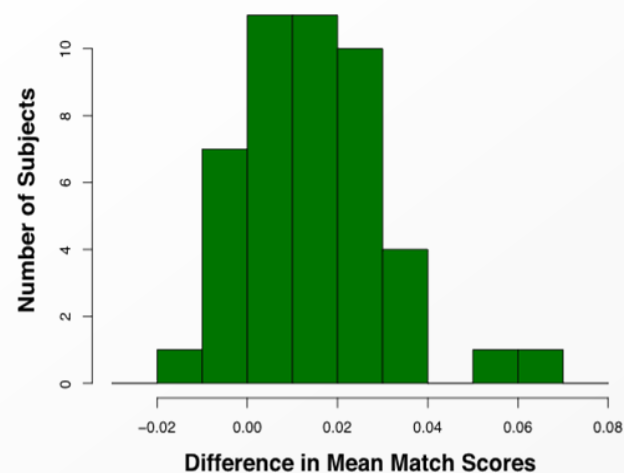
- Computed match (genuine) scores
  - for images acquired less than 120 days apart (short-time-lapse).
  - for images acquired more than 1200 days apart (long-time-lapse).
- Compared short-time-lapse and long-time-lapse
  - Mean of match score distribution
  - Median of match score distribution

# Results

- **IrisBee Algorithm**
  - **43 of 46** irises showed degradation, p-value =  $2.311 \times 10^{-10}$
  - mean match score
- **ICE 2006 Cambridge Cam-2 Algorithm**
  - **38 of 46** irises showed degradation, p-value =  $9.2477 \times 10^{-6}$
- **VeriEye Algorithm**
  - **40 of 46** irises showed degradation, p-value =  $3.103 \times 10^{-7}$



**IrisBee**



**ICE 2006 Cam-2**

# Iris Stability

- First study
  - One sensor
  - Limited subjects
- Recommend further studies
- Template aging as observed in other biometrics
- Multi-lab criteria



# Conclusions

- Biometric technology has experienced significant progress over the last 15 years.
- Challenge Problems are Key for advancing the 'State of the Art'.
- Science is Key to advancing Technology.

**Questions?**

# Example of Expanding Technology: Portal Recognition

High  
Definition  
(HD) Video  
Camera

Near Infrared  
(NIR) Video  
Cameras

