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Privacy preservation in video-based AAL applications

ESR 13. Siddharth Ravi, University of Alicante





Privacy preservation in video-based AAL applications

Problem Statement

- There is a need for visual data to be used for services where remote caregivers need to observe the scene
- Visual data exposes a lot of information about individuals appearing on images and videos
- There is a privacy / utility trade-off for the AAL services
- This project works on advancing a privacy by context approach.
 - Creating different privacy preserving visualizations.
 - Depending on the context of capture (Identity, appearance, location, etc) and the nature of access privilege of observer.





Privacy preservation in video-based AAL applications

- Research is embedded in a higher-level structure -
 - Creating end-to-end contextual privacy preservation pipelines (ESR 14)
 - Studying the perceptions and effects of the imparted privacy (ESR 15)











Privacy by Context



Research Conducted





A Review on Visual Privacy Preservation Techniques for Active and Assisted Living

- Completed a comprehensive review of the state of the art in visual privacy preservation methods
- Proposed a taxonomy with which to classify the state of the art methods
- Connected the proposed low-level taxonomy of visual privacy preservation to a high-level taxonomy created by Mihailidis and Colonna (2019) for categorizing privacy by design.











Privacy Preservation Methods

- Intervention methods prevent collection of information at sensor level.
- Blind vision Uses Secure multiparty computation cryptography techniques hide data and algorithms from providers of each.
- Secure Processing similar to blind vision, but without using secure multiparty computation.
- Data Hiding schemes through which sensitive attributes can be privately hidden/embedded in the image itself.













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User Level User Interface Level System Level Model Level Sensor Level Levels of Proposed Taxonomy

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Facial Obfuscation









Total Body Abstraction

Brkic, K., Sikiric, I., Kalafatic, Z., 2017. I Know That Person: Generative Full Body and Face Deidentification of People in Images, in: IEEE Computer Society Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops







Gait Obfuscation

Tieu, N.D.T., 2019. An RGB gait anonymization model for low-quality silhouettes, in: 2019 Asia-Pacific Signal and Information Processing Association Annual Summit and Conference, APSIPA ASC 2019.







2. Fairness of visual privacy preservation methods

- Collaborated with ESR11 for a study of the fairness of various visual privacy preservation methods
- Studied the impact that obfuscation algorithms such as blurring and pixelation have on protecting the identity along the lines of races and gender.

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Current Work





- Most privacy preservation methods work on standard RGB images.
 - Disadvantages Occlusions, obtrusive
 - Omnidirectional cameras can be preferable, but machine learning models cannot be used for privacy preservation.
 - Dataset that synchronizes various cameras and wearable devices (kinects, an omnidirectional camera, an egocentric camera, an empatica wearable device).
 - Created a test set for development, worked on the pipeline and setup for recording.





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Reversible methods for visual privacy preservation using data hiding

Steganography based data hiding for reversible obfuscation inside a monitoring pipeline







Reversible methods for visual privacy preservation using data hiding

Securely private broadcasting of images obfuscated using a cycleGAN-based domain translation.

- Using GANs to learn a cyclical transformation from normal images to a target optimally blurred image and back
- Embedding targeted noise to create a secure one-to-one mapping between encoder and decoder.







Future Work





Future Work

- Post constructing the dataset creating reversible context-based obfuscation algorithms to operate on visuals from omnidirectional cameras.
- Creating a framework for a fair and private image obfuscation.
- Creating privacy metrics through analysis from a legal perspective (secondment, Stockholm University)
- Analysing the effects of visual privacy preservation from a sociological perspective.
- Also been accepted to a startup incubator program







Thank you!

University of Alicante

Siddharth Ravi

Siddharth.ravi@ua.es