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**Facial Recognition- The most error-prone, yet enduring modern biometrics trait?**

In recent years, there has been much progress in the area of Facial Recognition (FR) that address the shortcomings in conventional FR systems. Spoofing using a high resolution image, high false negative rates due to partial occlusion of the face (ex. mask), and high positive rates due to similarity of subjects are among such shortcomings. Aided by advancements in AI and image acquisition technology (i.e. high resolution 2D/3D) cameras, researchers have been able to push the quality of the facial recognition systems to an impressive new level. Despite the progress, there are still challenging issues lingering around ranging from technology matters (ex. real-time standoff detection) to policy concerns (ex. privacy and ethics). In this talk, I will address the progress in facial recognition and present the state of the art technologies developed by the world software giants such as Google, Facebook, Microsoft and Baidu in FR. Amid the growing concerns about misuse of FR by governments and other public entities, companies have started to move away from broad identification toward more restrictive forms of personal identification. At the end, I will focus on the trade-offs of restrictive FR and the need for including control, privacy and transparency in future systems.