### Guardians of Forensic Evidence: Evaluating Analytic Systems Against Al-Generated Deepfakes

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## Al-generated Deepfakes: Challenges and Motivation NIST

#### **Growing Legal Challenges**

Deepfakes pose significant challenges that could strain legal frameworks in the near future<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Is the legal system ready for Al-generated deepfake videos? BY LAURA LOREK, AUGUST 1, 2024, American Bar Association Journal, https://www.abajournal.com/magazine/article/is-the-legalsystem-ready-for-ai-generated-deepfake-videos.

Al-generated disinformation erodes public trust in media platforms and complicates forensic investigations.

### **Advanced Analytic Tools**

are critical to preserving the integrity of forensic evidence and ensuring justice in the digital age.

#### **Economic and Business Risks**

"Across industries, businesses have lost an average of nearly \$450,000 to deepfakes with 28% reporting the losses exceeded \$500,000. Indeed, financial services businesses lost a little over \$600,000 on average while fintech businesses lost an average of more than \$630,000<sup>2</sup>".

It is projected to cause global losses totaling \$1 trillion by  $2024^3$ .

Courts and law enforcement are struggling to keep pace with the rapid growth of AI-powered fraud.

**Pressure on Legal and Forensic Systems** 

#### **Threat to Forensic Integrity and Trust in Media**

<sup>2</sup> The Deepfake Trends 2024'. Oct. 25, 2024. <u>https://regulaforensics.com/resources/deepfake-report-2024/</u>.

<sup>3</sup> 'Al-assisted fraud schemes could cost taxpayers \$1 trillion in just 1 year, expert says', June 20, 2023. <u>https://www.foxnews.com/us/ai-assisted-fraud-schemes-could-cost-taxpayers-1-trillion-one-year-expert-claims</u>.

## Forensics Deepfake Evaluation program

### NIST

#### **COLLABORATION**

Partner with experts from various fields, including data collection, deepfake generation, and AI analytics system development, to build the evaluation program.

#### ENGAGE PARTICIPANTS AND RUN THE EVALUATION

Involve relevant participants to test the AI systems. Collect feedback and performance data during the evaluation.

#### REPORT SYSTEM PERFORMANCE AND FINDINGS

Analyze the results and present performance metrics, strengths, weaknesses, and insights in a detailed report for stakeholders.

#### **UPGRADE AND ITERATE**

Share lessons learned, adjust evaluation task and upgrade data based on participant feedback, and continuously improve the evaluation program to integrate emerging technologies and methodologies.



#### **ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS**

Identify and involve key stakeholders, including researchers, industry professionals, and policymakers, to define goals and expectations for the evaluation program.

#### DEFINE THE EVALUATION PROGRAM

Describe the program's purpose, objectives, and scope. Outline the AI systems to be evaluated and the metrics or benchmarks that will measure performance.

#### DEVELOP THE EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

Develop a robust evaluation framework, including methodologies, datasets, and tools. Ensure the framework accommodates both technical metrics and human-machine interaction aspects.

## Program Goals

- Foster research in Deepfake and Generative Al
- Conduct recurring evaluations for state-of-the-art insights
- Collaborate with academia/industry to establish a reference baseline detection system
- Provide performance analysis for iterative system improvement
- Support the transition from lab prototypes to real-world products
- Enhance generalization of detection tools
- Deliver cross-year comparison reports





## Challenges for forensics researchers



### **Challenges**

### **Generalization Capability**



### **Robustness and Resilience**

Post-Processing, Laundering, anti-forensics





Rapid Evolution of Generative AI/Deepfake Technology

### **Evaluation Strategies** Design Evaluation to test generalization capability

Collaboration with multiple analytic teams

Measure the system robustness on realistic data

Release the datasets (with IRB approval)

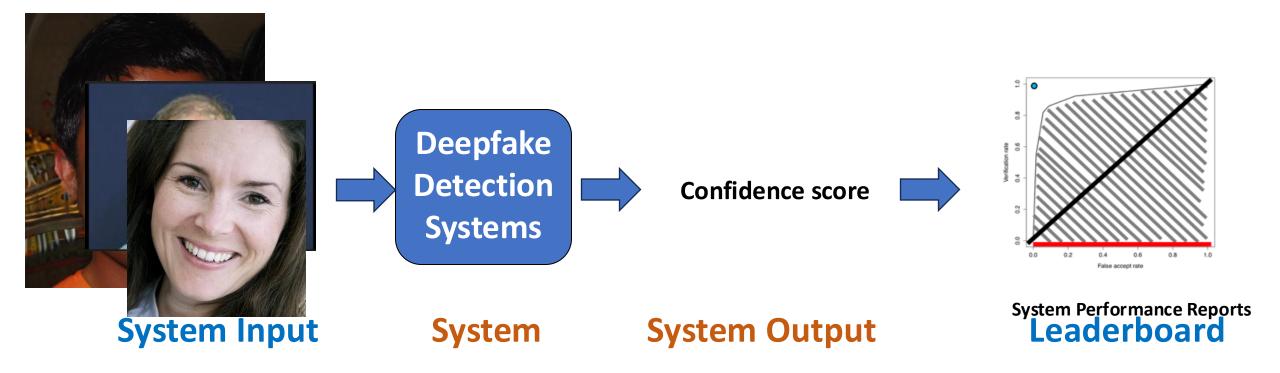
Collaboration with multiple data teams

### **Continuous Evaluation**

Data generation infrastructure supports update

### Forensics Deepfake Detection System Evaluation NIST

The open evaluation program is designed to advance the development of forensic technologies for automatically detecting deepfakes and AI-generated media.



## Image Deepfake Detection Task



**Task**: Detect deepfakes or Al-generated images.

**Study**: Generalization Capability and Robustness







**Data**: StyleGANs, Stable Diffusion (SD) tools, customized tools etc.

**Next Phase**: Working on the evaluation dataset generation

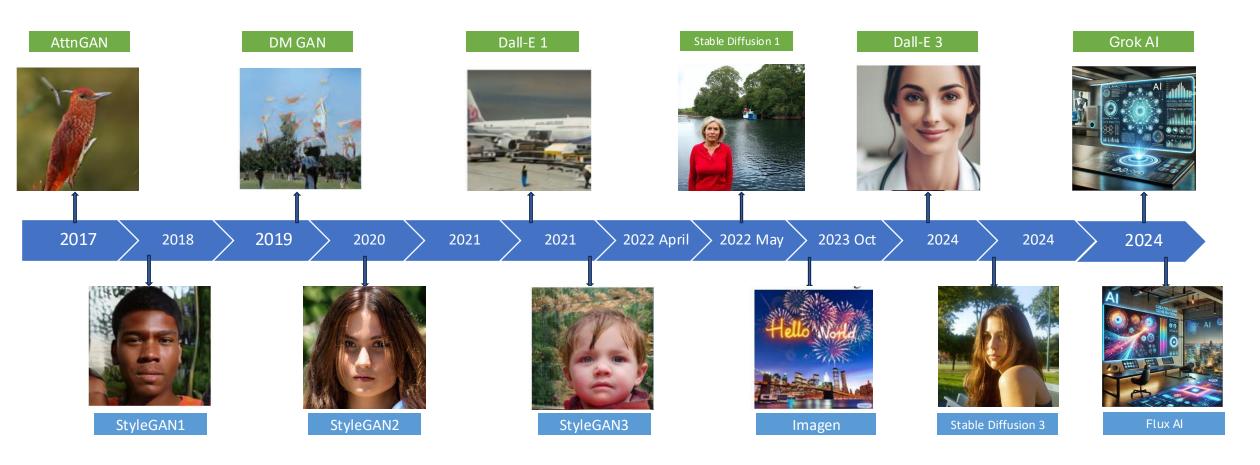






## **Generative** AI Tools

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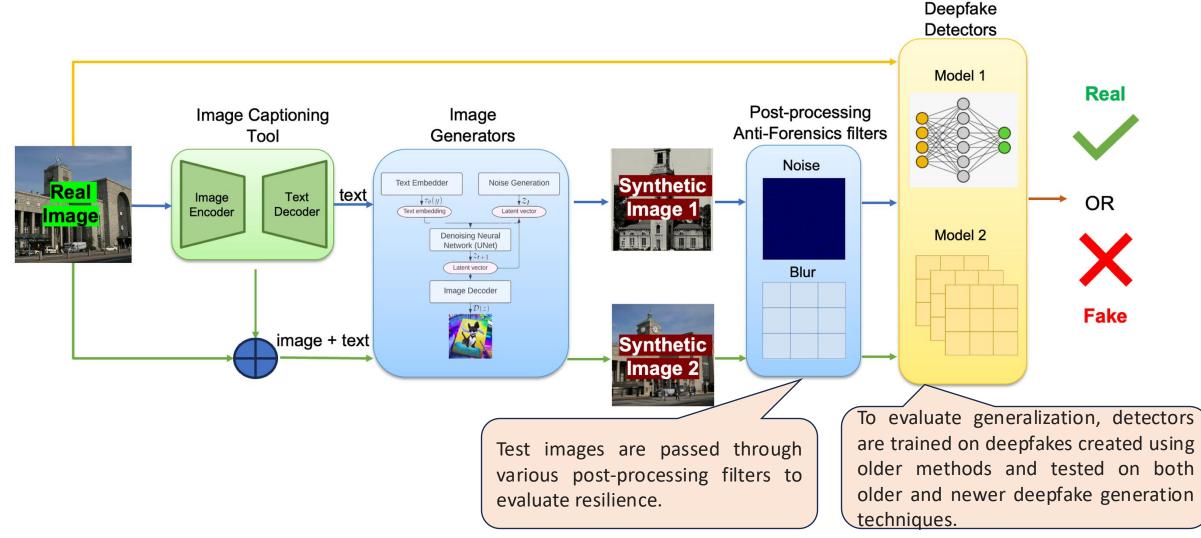
## Understanding the Gaps: A Study on Deepfake Detection Challenges



Three Challenges:

- The big gap:
  - Research algorithm accuracy: over 90%.
  - Real-world applications: social media platforms lack easy-to-use features, e.g., an add-on button.
- Generalization:
  - Systems perform well on media created by familiar generators but struggle with deepfakes generated by new or unfamiliar methods.
- Robustness:
  - In real-world applications, deepfakes often undergo post-processing.
  - The performance of algorithms on post-processed data remains uncertain.

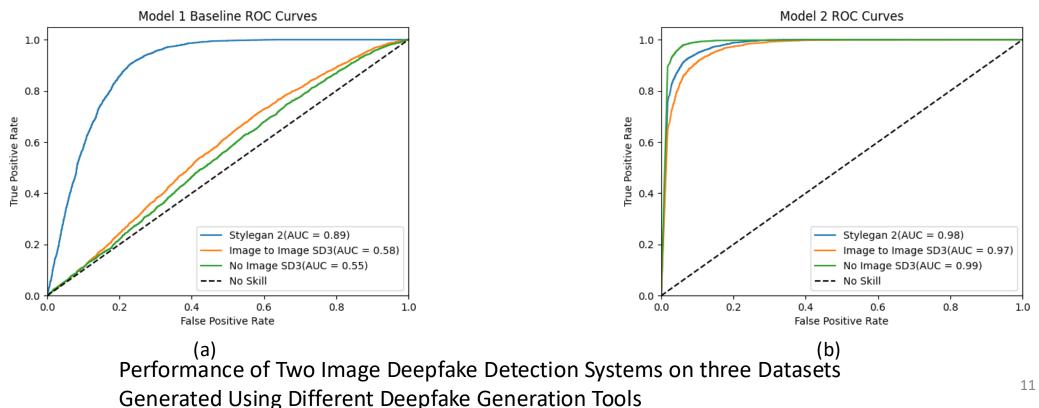
## A Study Design on the Generalization and Resilience of Deepfake Detection Systems



Generation of Image Deepfake Datasets

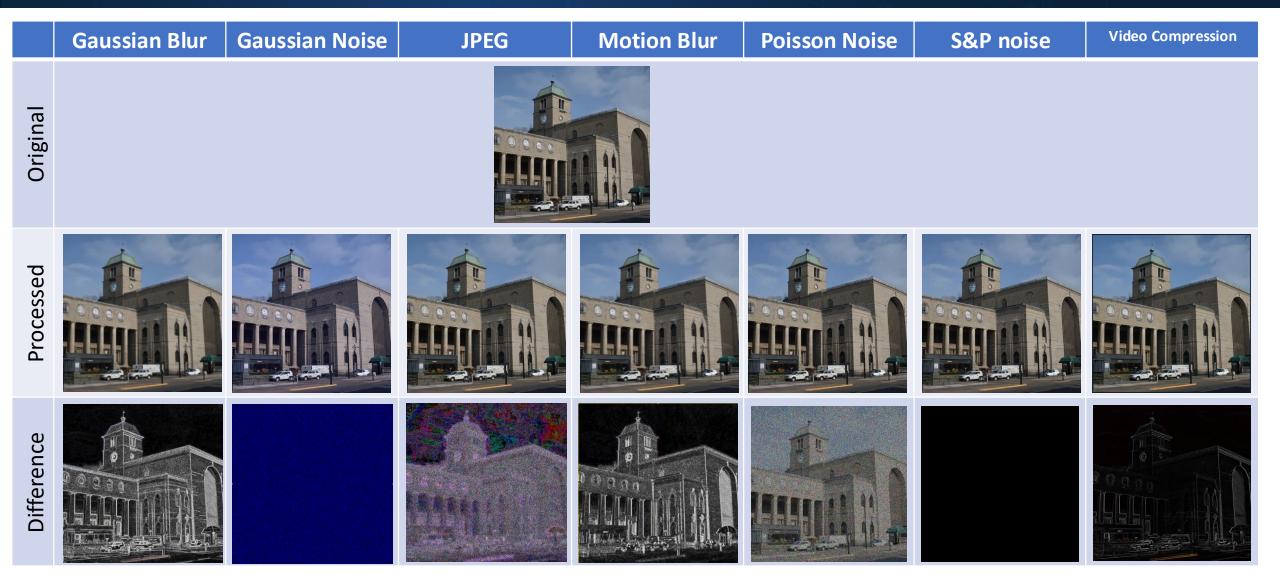
## Generalization of Deepfake Detection Systems NGT

- Both detection systems are trained on deepfakes generated using older methods and tested on both older and newer deepfake generation techniques.
  - The blue line represents data from known generators (older deepfake generation methods).
  - The orange and green lines represent data from unknown generators (newer deepfake generation methods).
- The results show that Detection System 1 struggles to generalize to unknown generators, while Detection System 2 performs effectively.

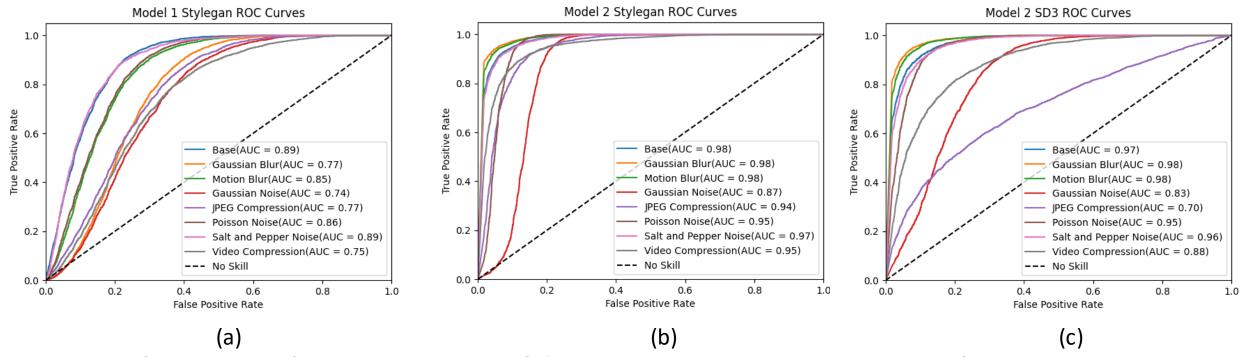


## **Robustness: Post-Processing Filters**





### Resilience/Robustness of Deepfake Detection Systems



Performance of Two Image Deepfake Detection Systems on a Set of Post-Processing Datasets Using Different Deepfake Generation Tools

## AFI2 Makes It Possible



### AFI2 funds a portion of the work within the overall evaluation program:

- Generalization and Resilience Study
  - Supported research into generalization and resilience in deepfake detection systems, a key component for designing the evaluation program.
- Collaborations and Partnerships
  - Enabled collaborations with top academic teams
    - Professor Siwei Lyu's team from University at Buffalo, SUNY
    - Professor Matthew Stamm's team from Drexel University
  - Facilitated a partnership with Deep Media AI to acquire the latest synthetic and deepfake media data
- Data and Tools Enhancement
  - It is expected to provide resources to incorporate more comprehensive data and tools into future evaluations, enhancing the program's overall impact.

## **Challenges for the Evaluation Program**



### **Challenges in Deepfake Detection**

### **Generalization Capability**





### **Evaluation Program Strategies**

Collaborate with academia and industry teams to ensure representative data and data diversity.

Work with experts in deepfake or synthetic media generation to create more realistic test images, incorporating post-processing, social media laundering, and anti-forensics filters.

Build a flexible evaluation dataset generation infrastructure and establish partnerships with academia and industry to integrate new tools and techniques.

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# Thank You!

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