



Trimodal Biometric Authentication System using Cascaded Link-based Feed forward Neural Network [CLBFFNN]

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ABSTRACT

The beginning of the 21st century was rich in events that turned the world's attention to public security. Increase in technological advancement gave people possibilities of information transfer and ease of physical mobility unseen before. With those possibilities comes risk of fraud, theft of personal data, or even theft of identity. One of the ways to prevent this is through biometric authentication system. This paper considers a multi-biometric system involving a combination of three biometric traits: iris, fingerprint and face in order to make authentication cheaper and more reliable. When the images are captured using optical scanner and webcam, image pre-processing is done using Enhanced Extracted Face (EEF), Plainarized Region of Interest (PROI) and Advanced Processed Iris Code (APIC) methods for face, fingerprint and iris images respectively. These are fed into a Cascaded Link-Based Feed Forward Neural Network (CLBFFNN) which is a classifier trained with back-propagation algorithm. CLBFFNN comprises of CLBFFNN(1) used for training and CLBFFNN(2) used as the main classifier. Fusion of outputs from face, fingerprint and iris recognition systems is done at decision level using AND operation. With the use of the improved pre-processing methods, Optical Character Recognition (OCR) with intelligent barcode and CLBFFNN, the proposed intelligent multibiometric system is proved to be cheaper, more secure and efficient than the existing methods.

Keywords

Authentication, Enhanced Extracted Face (EEF), Plainarized Region Of Interest (PROI), Advanced Processed Iris Code (APIC), Cascaded Link-Based Feed Forward Neural Network (CLBFFNN), Optical Character Recognition (OCR), Multibiometric, Back propagation Algorithm, Adaptive Principal Component Analysis (APCA), Multilayer Perceptron (MLP), Relevant Vector Machine (RVM), and Support Vector Machine (SVM).

1. INTRODUCTION

Biometrics is a division of science that uses computer knowledge to establish human identification or authentication, based on a person's behavioral or physical characteristics. Biometrics is a constituent of two Greek words, 'bio' and 'metrics'. 'Bio' in the word biometrics has to do with natural life and refers to the quantifiable physical or biological traits while 'metrics' literally means 'to measure' and refers to the quantitative or measurable analysis for accurate authentication of a person.

It has been observed from the definition of biometrics that

the use of biometrics in person's authentication yields better results than traditional methods. However, no single biometric technology can guarantee 100% accuracy; this means that every biometric technology has both advantages and disadvantages in terms of accuracy, cost, ease of use, intrusiveness, ease of deployment. Secondly, none can be perfectly used in all applications. Therefore, unimodal biometric systems (biometric technology involving only one biometric trait) have a lot of problems such as noise, false rejection, etc.; which could be solved by employing the use of more than a biometric attribute. Any biometric system that uses more than one biometric trait or identifier in a personal authentication is called a multibiometric system. It solves the problems of unimodal biometrics such as false rejection, noisy data, intra-class variations, restricted degrees of freedom, non-universality and spoof attacks (Farhat and Zede, 2008; Singh et al, 2012; Rashmi et al, 2012). This is because multi-biometric systems incorporate and fuse proofs obtainable from different traits and guarantee significant development in the biometric system matching accuracy. This depends on the traits that are being merged and the merging approach.

To overcome these difficulties multi-biometric systems are used [13], [42], [28]. Many of these limitations can be addressed by deploying multi-modal biometric systems that integrate the evidences presented by multiple sources of information [20], [38], [25], [47].

This paper is arranged in seven sections consisting of the Introduction, Reviewed Literatures, the proposed method, CLBFFNN, OCR with Intelligent 2D Barcode, Biometric Fusion and Matching, Implementation and Evaluation.

2. REVIEWED LITERATURES

Nayak & Narayah (2013) in their work "Multimodal Biometric Face, Fingerprint and Iris Recognition Using Adaptive Principal Component Analysis and Multilayer Perception" combined ridge-based and eigen face approach for parallel execution. They used APEX algorithm, Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) with back propagation learning technique and combined various fusion levels. Their major shortcoming was on the speed of face recognition system. They had a low recognition rate.

Long & Thai, (2015) in their work 'Person Authentication using Relevance Vector Machine (RVM) for Face, Fingerprint and Iris, extracted both face and fingerprint features using Zernike Moment. This moment is invariant to rotation, scaling and noise image, while authentication is done using RVM. Their preprocessing involves image

normalization, noise elimination, and illumination normalization. Their system encountered noise reduction but had low recognition rate.

Wilson & Lenin, (2014) in their work, ‘An Efficient Biometric Multimodal Face, Iris and Finger Fake Detection using an Adaptive Neuro Fuzzy Inference System (ANFIS) used Singularity Points detection method for fingerprint detection and an Anisotropic Gaussian filtering and Hough Transform. They employed four phases in iris image detection: image scanner, preprocessing, feature extraction and identification; employed median filter and canny edge detection algorithm and used Daugman’s rubber sheet model to normalize the iris model and Gabor filter for feature extraction. Median filter and Canny Edge detection algorithm were used for face detection preprocessing, and also used vertical and horizontal sober operator. They used an Adaptive Neuro Fussy Inference System (ANFIS) classifier, which is a fuzzy inference system implemented in a framework of adaptive network.

Annis et al., (2013) in their work, ‘ Person Authentication System with Quality Analysis of Multimodal Biometrics employed Orientation Field Methodology (OFM) for fingerprint preprocessing and Hough transform for detection of ROI. Gabor transform and Independent Component Analysis (ICA) were used for iris and face feature extraction respectively. They used score level fusion using weighted average approach. They also employed Block Independent Component Analysis (BICA), Discrete Cosine Transform with Fisher Linear Discriminant Classifier and Kalman Filter.

3. OUR PROPOSED METHOD

In our approach, we adopted an intelligent trimodal Multi-biometric Authentication System using a Cascaded Link Feed-Forward Neural Network [CLFFNN] as a classifier. The preprocessing methods used for fingerprint, face and iris are Plainarized Region of Interest Method (PROI), Enhanced Extracted Face (EEF) and Advanced Processed Iris Code (APIC) methods for face, fingerprint and iris images respectively. Our method involves two phases: Enrollment phase and Verification phase. Each of these phases consists of four steps such as: Image Acquisition, Preprocessing, Feature extraction, and Training and matching.

When each of the biometric traits or images is captured, it undergoes image preprocessing and feature extraction. Feature vectors for face, fingerprint and iris are produced and then passed into CLBFFNN classifier for network training and authentication. Image acquisition, preprocessing and feature extraction of these three biometric traits are done in parallel. This is shown in Figure 1.

3.1 Face Modality

We employ a method called Enhanced Extracted Face Method as shown in figure 2. This involves Image Acquisition using webcam, Face Image Preprocessing, Image Resizing and Cropping, ROI Detection, Feature Extraction, and Post Processing with Biometric Feature Quality Checker. Preprocessing is the process of screening the input image so as to obtain a better-quality output image before passing it on to the next stage of the authentication system [Benson-Emenike and Nwachukwu,

(2015)]. Preprocessing is an important phase in face recognition that makes the quality of face image standard and ready for feature extraction. It involves some Image Enhancement processes such as Image Conversion, Morphological Dilation, Thinning, and Binarization. In our feature extraction, we adopted a 2-D Gabor filter kernel which we defined as follows:

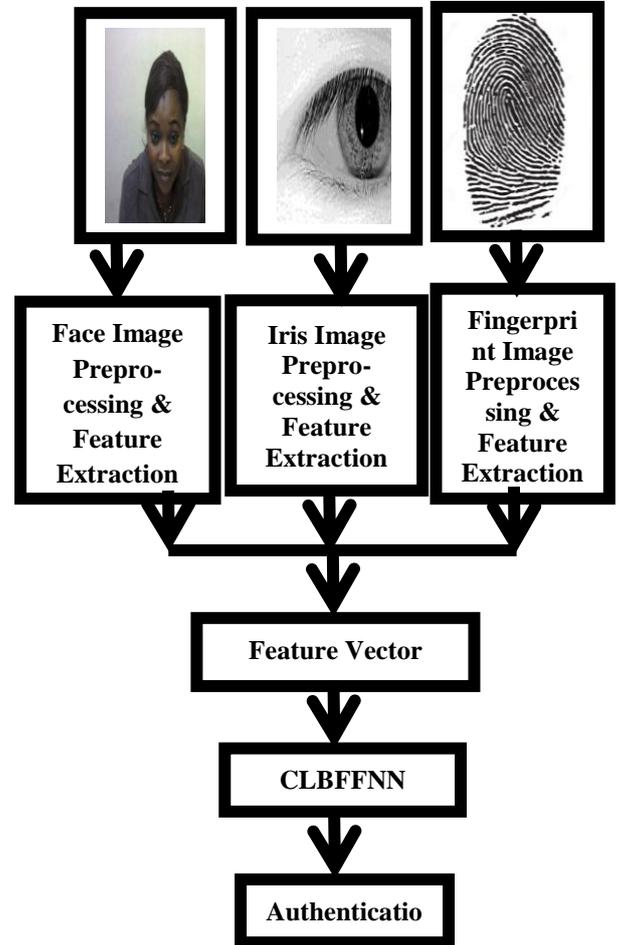


Figure 1: Intelligent Face Preprocessing and Detection

$$f(\alpha, \beta, \theta_r, \eta) = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \frac{T_1^2}{\sigma_\alpha^2} + \frac{T_2^2}{\sigma_\beta^2} \right\} \right] \exp \left\{ p \frac{2\pi T_1}{\eta} \right\} \quad (1)$$

Where $T_1 = a \cos \theta_r + \beta \sin \theta_r$ (2)

$$T_2 = -a \sin \theta_r \quad (3)$$

σ_α and σ_β are the Gaussian envelope standard deviations along the α and β dimensions while η and θ_r are the wavelength and orientation of sinusoidal plane wave respectively. The sinusoidal plane wave orientation θ_r is defined by

$$\theta_r = \frac{\pi(r-1)}{k}, \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, k \quad (4)$$

where k equals the number of orientations (in degrees) that are taken into consideration. A convolution of the image with the filter kernel obtained by Eq. (1) gives a Gabor filter response. For sampling point (α, β) , the filter

response is given by:

$$u(\alpha, \beta, \theta_r, \eta) = \sum_{g=-\alpha-1}^{K-\alpha-1} \sum_{q=-\beta-1}^{K-\beta-1} J(\alpha + g, \beta + q | g, q, \theta_r, \eta) \quad (5)$$

where $J(\alpha, \beta)$ signifies a 16x16 grayscale image.

After these stages, the resultant image is passed into CLBFFNN classifier for training and recognition.

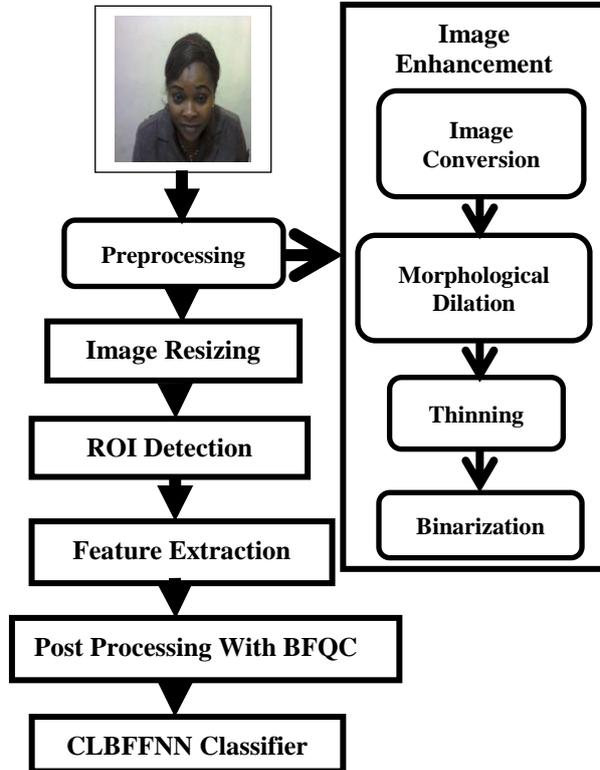


Figure 2: Enhanced Extracted Face Method (EEF) of Face Image Preprocessing

3.2 Fingerprint Modality

We employ a method called Plainarized Region of Interest (PROI) which involves the following stages: Fingerprint Image Acquisition, Preprocessing, Image Enhancement, Binarization, Denoising, Thinning, Minutiae Extraction, Post Processing and Biometric Feature Quality Checker, as seen in figure 3. After these stages, the resultant image vector is passed into CLBFFNN classifier for training and recognition.

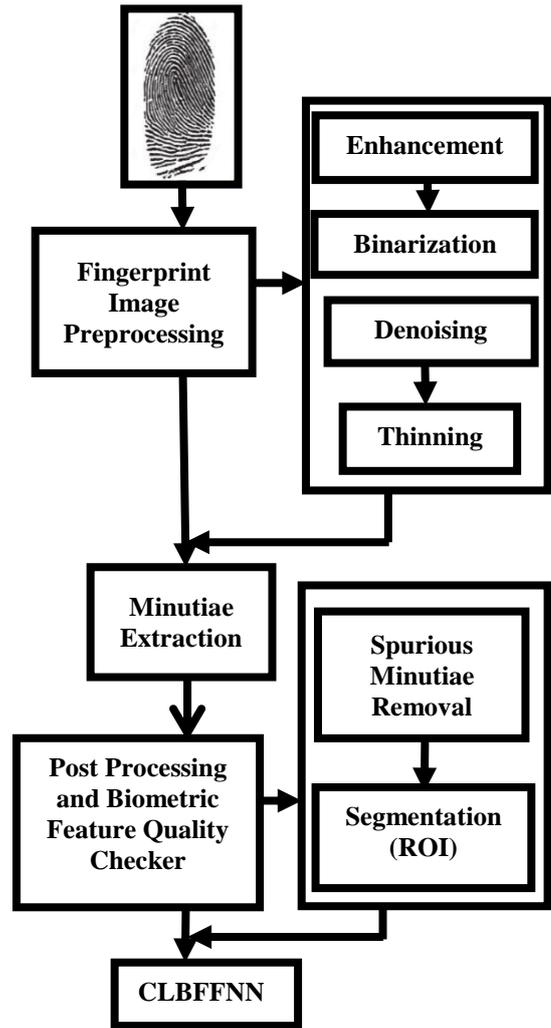


Figure 3: Plainarized Region of Interest (PROI) Method of Fingerprint Image Preprocessing

3.3 Iris Modality

We adopt a method called Advanced Processed Iris Code (APIC) which involves stages such as Iris Image acquisition, Preprocessing (involving Iris Segmentation, Normalization, Enhancement and Denoising), Iris Code Generation and Feature Extraction, Post Processing and Biometric Feature Quality Checker. After these stages, the resultant image is passed to CLBFFNN classifier for classification and matching, as seen in Figure 4.

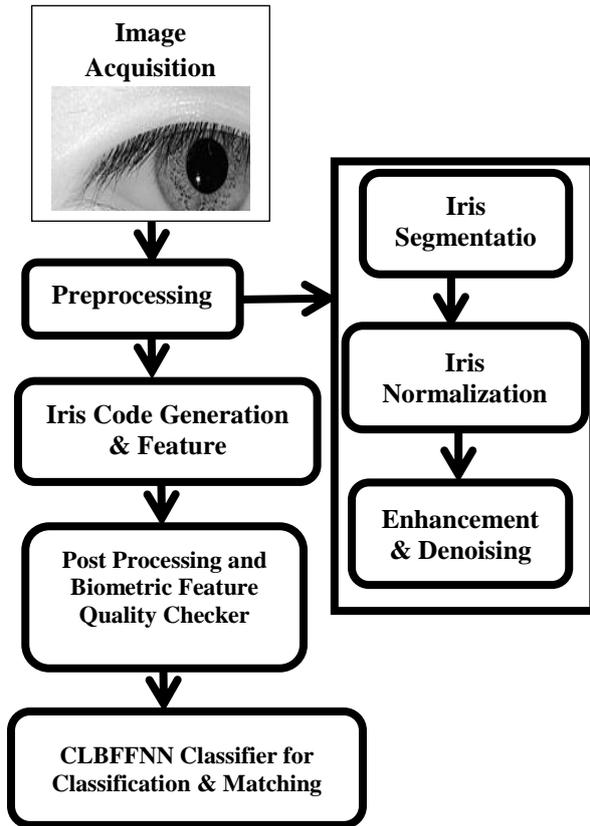


Figure 4: Advanced Processed Iris Code (APIC) Method for Image Preprocessing

4. CASCADED LINK-BASED FEED FORWARD NEURAL NETWORK (CLBFFNN)

After preprocessing, feature extraction and quality assessment, the next stage is verification or authentication which is done by a CLBFFNN classifier. CLBFFNN is an ordered cascade of two neural networks CLBFFNN(1) and CLBFFNN(2), as seen in Figure 5.

Their designed arrangement guarantees reduction in computation cost, increases system's detection accuracy and efficiency. The network components are interconnected with layers and flow of information via these network components is not interrupted in any way. Apart from learning and training of CLBFFNN with back propagation algorithm, it makes decisions on final association between its inputs.

4.1 CLBFFNN(1)

CLBFFNN(1) is a neural network that uses Back Propagation algorithm. It is composed of an input layer, a single hidden layer and an output layer with a sigmoid activation function. The feature vectors from APIC, EEF and PROI for iris, face and fingerprint respectively; form the input into CLBFFNN(1). The CLBFFNN (1) has three cascaded stages as seen in Figure 6. The first stage ensures that the feature patterns that are entering into the network are life-scanned features, i.e. facilitating further liveness detection. The second stage filters the non-face from face feature, distorted or incomplete minutiae from fingerprints and blurred iris pattern from iris images. Lastly, the third stage determines the image width and height and calculates

the time complexity of face, fingerprint and iris detection. These sub windows are passed through each section of image and minimizes the false positive rate (i.e. non-faces for example) and detects the face. This method reduces false rejection and false acceptance errors to their barest minimum and increases system verification accuracy. The simulated results from CLBFFNN(1) is fed into CLBFFNN(2) for the function approximation.

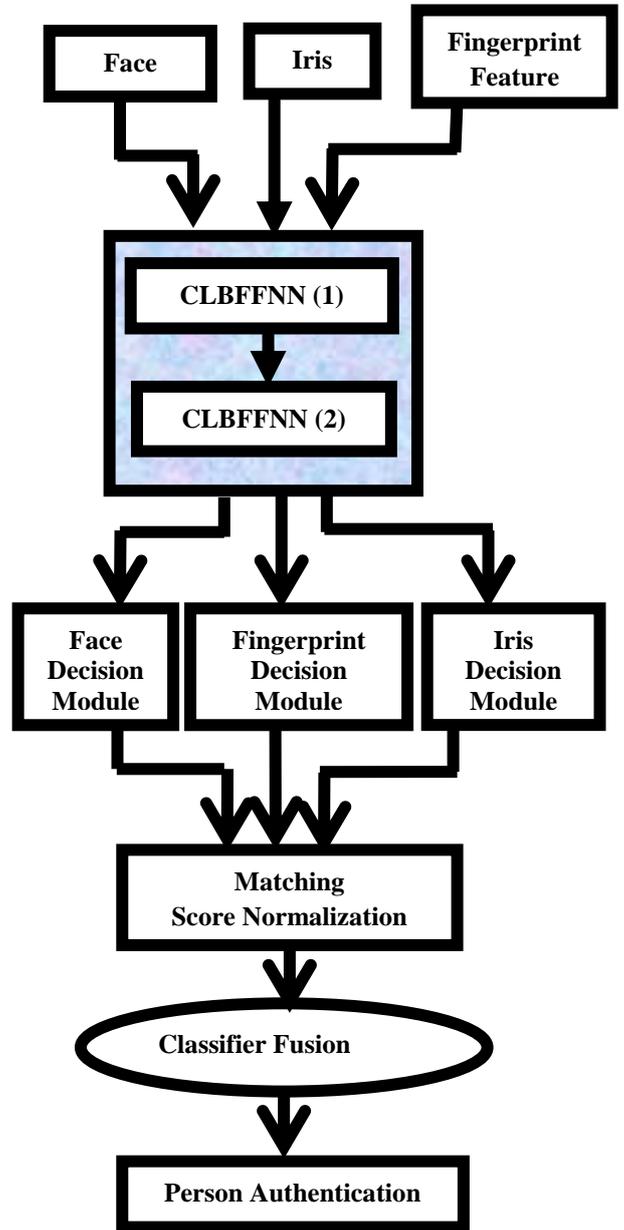


Figure 5: CLBFFNN Classifier

4.2 CLBFFNN(2)

Network learning and training, template matching, comparison and decision making take place in CLBFFNN(2). Output from CLBFFNN(1) is approximated since it is connected with CLBFFNN(2). CLBFFNN(2) are universal approximators and have a very compact topology. CLBFFNN(2) is also composed of an input layer, a single hidden layer and an output layer with fast locally regulated neurons; and also has a feed-forward design. With this arrangement, false rejection must be

totally eradicated if adequate data are made available to the network during training session. The output from the CLBFFNN(2) is considered as the recognition result.

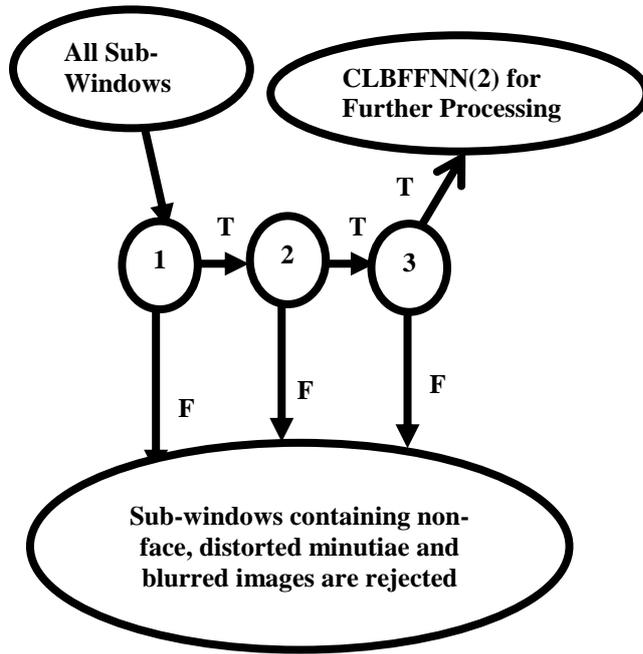


Figure 6: The Three Cascaded Stages of CLBFFNN(1)

5. OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION (OCR) WITH INTELLIGENT 2D BARCODE

OCR is a technology that converts various documents (whether digital, scanned, or PDF files) into data that can be edited or searched. OCR automatically scans a document and provides a full alphanumeric recognition of printed or handwritten characters at electronic speed (Pranob et al., 2012).

OCR with Intelligent 2D Barcode has been used in conjunction with the intelligent trimodal biometric system and has been seen to greatly increase the throughput, effectiveness, accuracy and efficiency of the system.

6. BIOMETRIC FUSION AND MATCHING

During enrolment stage, an individual's biometric sample is extracted and converted to biometric feature using the proposed preprocessing algorithms; and is stored as template in the template database. When the individual later comes for authentication, he submits his biometric sample again, and the whole process repeats. At template match, his template already saved in the memory is extracted and compared with the current template and a match score is obtained which is then matched with a set threshold. A "match" or "non-match" output is obtained. Feature extraction and matching scores for the three biometric traits are done independently, thereafter the output from the three recognizers are fused at decision level using AND rule.

6.1 Fusion

Fusion is a method designed to obtain a combination of multiple pieces of biometric data; in our case, face,

fingerprint and iris biometric features. Fusion is normally performed when there are multiple samples, multiple modes, or multiple algorithms; and it is more informative than any of the input images. Good combination of these traits improves the overall decision accuracy.

The score vector is formed with the scores obtained from each of the biometric trait at matching score level using sum rule. MS_{iris} , MS_{finger} and MS_{face} , being the matching scores generated by iris, fingerprint and face recognizers respectively are obtained. Combining match scores is a challenging task because the scores of different matchers are heterogeneous i.e. have dissimilar nature and scale.

6.2 Score Normalization

Since the three traits used are dissimilar in nature and have non-identical geometric range; score normalization of the three scores becomes inevitable. Normalization means transforming the marks obtained from each of the separable matchers into a mutual province prior to their combination. Here, we adopt min-max normalization pattern, as given in equations (6), (7) and (8):

$$N_{iris} = \frac{MS_{iris} + \min_{iris}}{\max_{iris} + \min_{iris}} \quad (6)$$

$$N_{finger} = \frac{MS_{finger} + \min_{finger}}{\max_{finger} + \min_{finger}} \quad (7)$$

$$N_{face} = \frac{MS_{face} + \min_{face}}{\max_{face} + \min_{face}} \quad (8)$$

The \max_{iris} , \max_{face} , \max_{finger} are the maximum scores for iris, face and fingerprint recognition respectively while the \min_{iris} , \min_{face} , \min_{finger} are the minimum scores for iris, face and fingerprint recognition respectively. N_{iris} , N_{face} , and N_{finger} are the normalized matching scores of iris, face and fingerprint respectively. The output of an iris matcher, fingerprint and face matchers are given as a distance score, a similarity score and a distance score, respectively.

6.3 Combination of Normalized Scores

Before combining the normalized scores, the three normalized scores N_{iris} , N_{face} , and N_{finger} are converted to likeness domain. This is achieved by finding its difference from 1, as shown in Equation 9.

$$\begin{aligned} NSS_{iris} &= \text{Unity} - N_{iris} \\ NSS_{finger} &= \text{Unity} - N_{finger} \\ NSS_{face} &= \text{Unity} - N_{face} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where $\text{Unity} = 1$

Therefore the addition of the obtained normalized similarity score, NSS_{iris} , NSS_{finger} , and NSS_{face} gives the final matching score, MS_{final} ; this is obtained by Equation (10).

$$MS_{final} = 1/3 [\alpha * NSS_{iris} + \beta * NSS_{finger} + \gamma * NSS_{face}] \quad (10)$$

Where α , β , γ are the threshold weights for the individual traits: iris, fingerprint and face features respectively.

6.4 Matching

α , β and γ are individually apportioned the value of one, so that the classifiers will have a common domain. Matching involves the assessment of similarity and difference



between the final matching score (MS_{final}) and the set threshold. Hence, the output obtained is verifying an individual as a true or an impersonator.

MS_{Final} Vs Threshold \rightarrow Authentication (Accept / Reject)

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

When the training begins, all the weights of the neurons are aggregated and stored in a weight file. After the first set of data is trained, an error is calculated, which is based on the difference between the computed output and the target output, as seen in figure 7. This aims at reducing this error and ensuring that the final output obtained is equal to the target output; by series of network training and weight adjustments.

7.1 Experimental Details

The experiment involves two major phases: Enrolment and Authentication. During enrolment, the user is expected to enter his name, address, date of birth and gender. After this, he clicks to have his face, iris and fingerprint captured, as seen in Figure 8. In the case of fingerprint, he is expected to choose from the left or right finger index, pinkie, middle finger or thumb. Four samples of the selected choice are taken. Each of these traits, when captured, is used to obtain feature matrices which are stored in the database. These feature matrices are then fed into CLBFFNN for training and learning purposes. The learning rate of the network is set to $\eta_1 = \eta_2 = 0.6$ and spread factor is $K_1 = K_2 = 0.7$. When training is completed, the updated weights and threshold values are stored in a database (Auth_sys), which are used in the iris, face and fingerprint verification process.

During authentication, the enrollee is expected to resubmit the same biometric data he submitted during enrolment. When this is done, the features are extracted from a feature matrix and compared with those pre-stored in the database. Authentication is done and access is either guaranteed or denied. When access is guaranteed, the user is given an ID card which has an OCR barcode on it with the user's picture. This ensures more secure and efficient system.

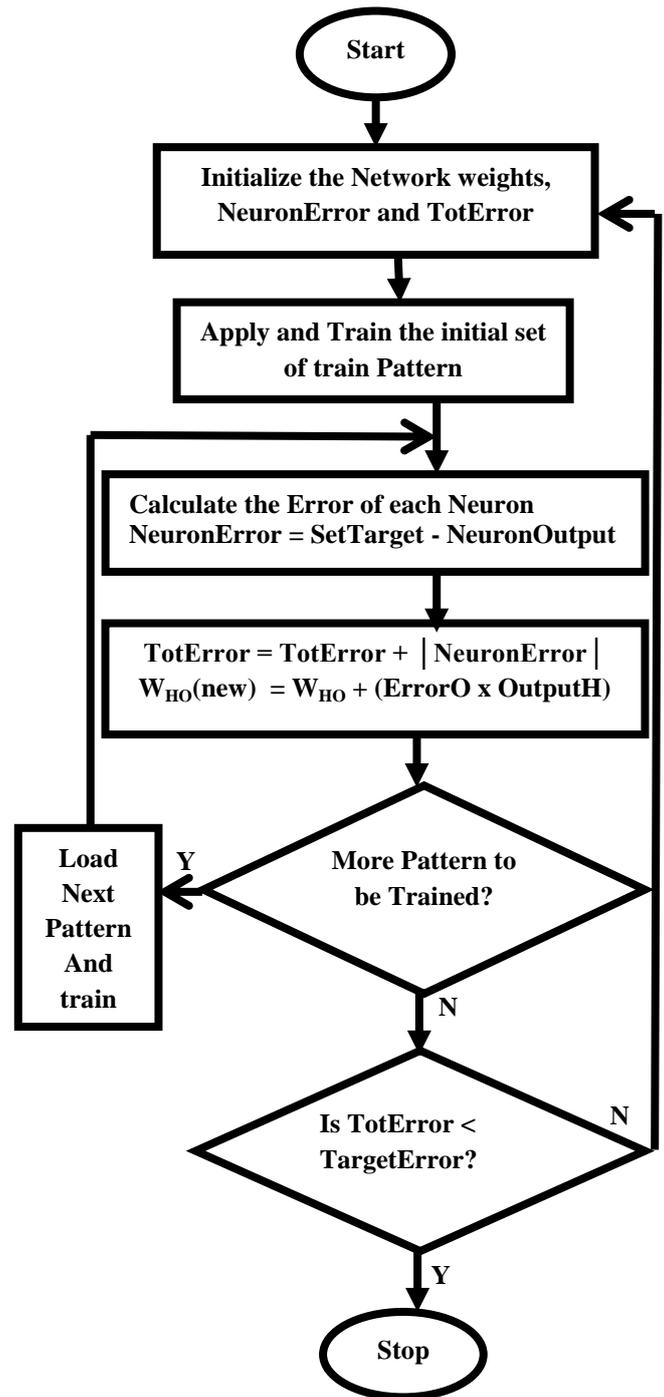


Figure 7: Network Learning and Training

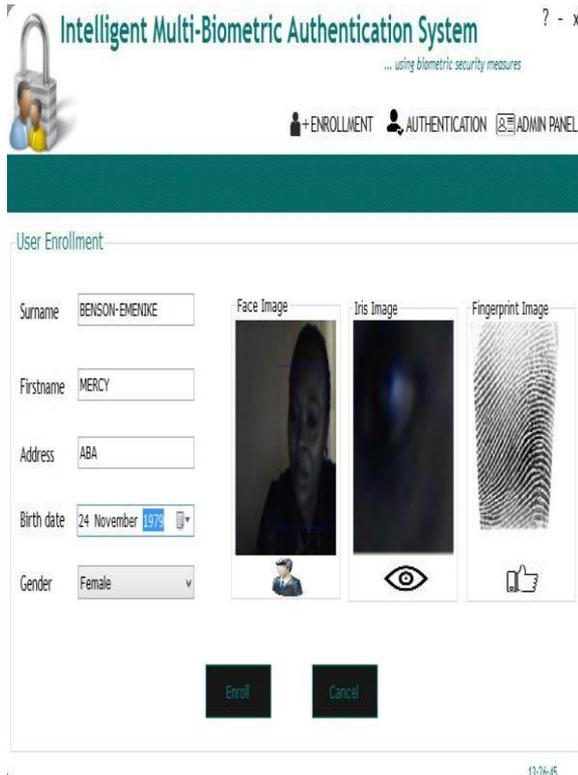


Figure 8: Enrolment Phase

7.2 System Testing and Results

To test the multi-biometric system, iris, fingerprints and face features were obtained from 20 persons. Four samples of face, fingerprint and iris features were collected from each person. The experimental result of the verification process as seen in Table 1 proves the authenticity of our proposed system.

Table 4.1: Result of Verification using Trimodal Biometrics

Experimental Data	Face Alone	Iris Alone	Finger-print Alone	Multi-modal Result
No. of Persons	50	50	50	50
Samples for each Person	4	4	4	4
Total No. of Samples	200	200	200	200
False Acceptance	4	4	2	0
Unrecognized Samples	3	3	4	2
Misclassified Images	4	5	2	1
Impostors obtained	1	1	2	0
Recognized Samples	195	193.75	190	199
System Accuracy	97.5	96.875	95	99.5

7.2.1 System Percentage Recognition Accuracy

Accuracy is the measure of a system's correctness, effectiveness and reliability. The following were computed based on the experiment conducted:

$$\% \text{Accuracy} = \frac{\text{Total No. of Recognized Samples}}{\text{Total No. of samples}} \times 100$$

$$\% \text{ Accuracy (Iris)} = \frac{193.75}{200} \times 100 = 96.875$$

$$\% \text{ Accuracy (Fingerprint)} = \frac{190}{200} \times 100 = 95$$

$$\% \text{ Accuracy (Face)} = \frac{195}{200} \times 100 = 97.5$$

$$\% \text{ Accuracy (Face + Iris + Fingerprint)} = \frac{199}{200} \times 100 = 99.5$$

It is observed that our proposed system gives a better Recognition Rate and Accuracy, as seen in Table 2; and its superiority over unimodal applications is proved.

The error rate is calculated by finding the ratio between the number of misclassified images and the total number of images in the testing set. The accuracy is precisely the opposite of the error rate, that is, the percentage of correctly classified images.

Error rate of our proposed system

$$= \frac{\text{Misclassified images}}{\text{Total number of images}} \times 100\%$$

$$= \frac{1}{200} \times 100\% = 0.5\%$$

$$\text{Accuracy} = 100\% - \text{Error Rate} = 100 - 0.5 = 99.5$$

This multi-biometric system gives a recognition rate of 99.474. This is shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Recognition Rate of our Proposed System

Test	Recognition Rate
A	99.54
B	99.65
C	99.31
D	99.35
E	99.52
Average	99.474

7.2.2 Evaluation

Two types of evaluation are considered: System Performance Evaluation and Recognition Performance Evaluation. In our system performance evaluation, we considered the following metrics: security, data quality and



usability. Security has to do with the biometric system robustness. Here, the devices, architectures and algorithms are secured against attacks by mounting appropriate checks (such as liveness checks, biometric data quality checks and overtraining check facilities) at appropriate quarters. With the aid of the biometric quality checking, bad quality samples are removed during enrolment while some are rejected during verification. This, if not done, would definitely increase the enrollment failure rate; and consequently lead to a lower system performance quality. The proposed biometric system usable since it guarantees efficiency, effectiveness and user satisfaction with little or no specific training. In our Recognition Performance Evaluation, we calculated FAR, FRR, FTE, FTA, GAR, TER and Recognition rate

False Acceptance Rate

$$\begin{aligned} \text{FAR}(\%) &= \\ &= \frac{\text{False Acceptance Number}}{\text{Number of Impostors Obtained}} \times 100\% \\ &= \frac{0}{0} \times 100\% \\ &= 0\% \end{aligned}$$

False Rejection Rate

$$\begin{aligned} \text{FRR}(\%) &= \frac{\text{False Rejection Number}}{\text{Number of Approved User Obtained}} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{1}{199} \times 100\% \\ &= 0.00502513 \times 100 \\ &= 0.5025\% \end{aligned}$$

Failure-To-Enrol Rate
FTE = 0.

Failure-To-Acquire Rate
FTA = 0.

Genuine Acceptance Rate
GAR(%) = 100 – FRR(%) = 100 – 0.5025 = 99.498%

Total Error Rate (TER)(%)
= FAR(%) + FRR(%) = 0 + 0.502 = 0.5025%

7.2.3 Comparison of our Method with Others

The proposed classifier, CLBFFNN is compared with Adaptive Principal Component Analysis (APCA) and Multilayer Perceptron (MLP) (Nayak and Narayah (2013)) methods as seen in Figure 9; and is seen to have a better recognition performance. The second comparison shows the superiority and efficiency of multimodality over unimodality, as shown in Figure 10. Comparison was also done with that of Long & Thai (2015) who used RVM in their approach. CLBFFNN gives better performance than their approach as seen in Figure 12. If the user is verified to be true, he gets an output message granting him an access, as seen in figure 13. Then an ID card with an OCR Barcode is issued to him, as seen in figure 14.

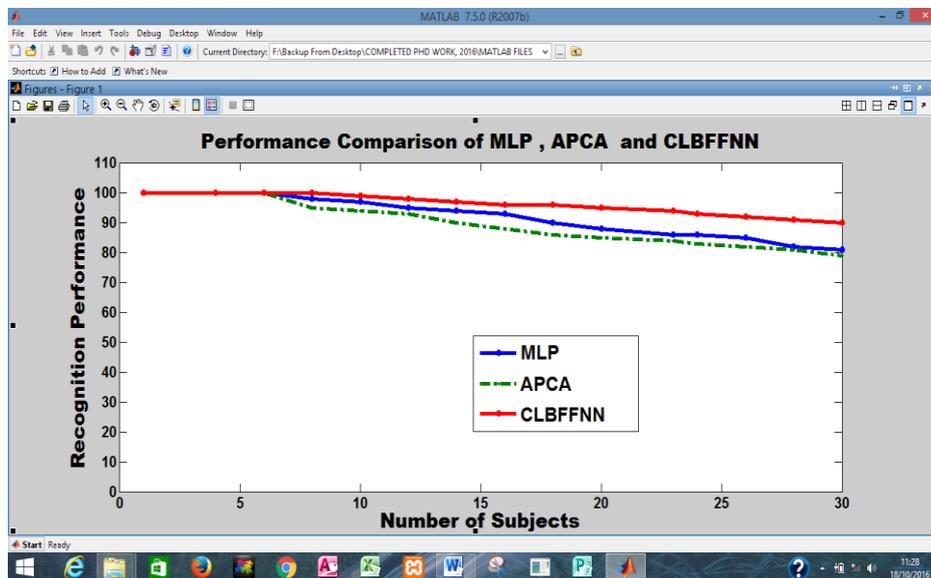


Figure 9: Performance Comparison MLP, APCA and CLBFFNN

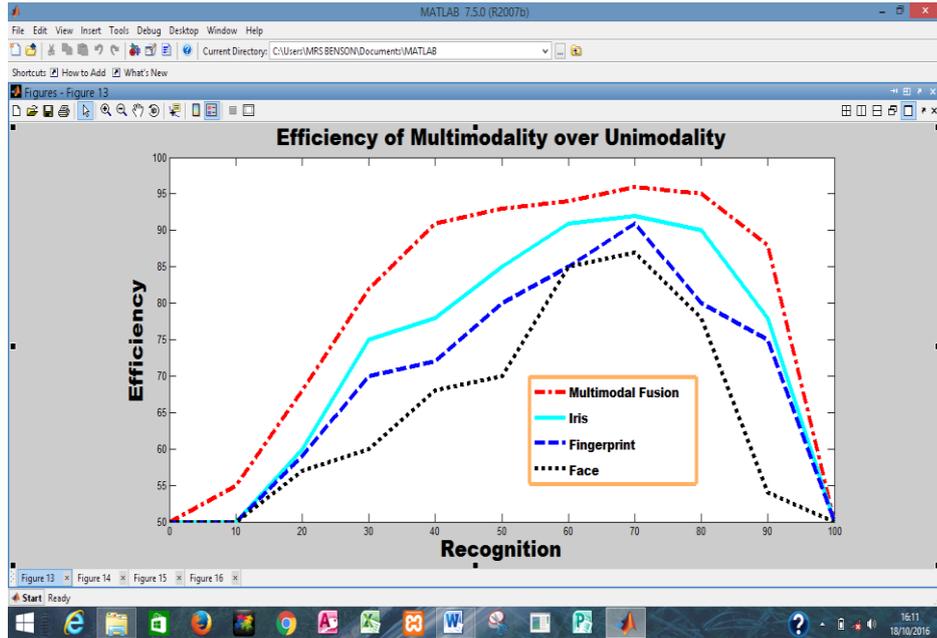


Figure 10: The Proof of Effectiveness of Multimodality over Unimodality

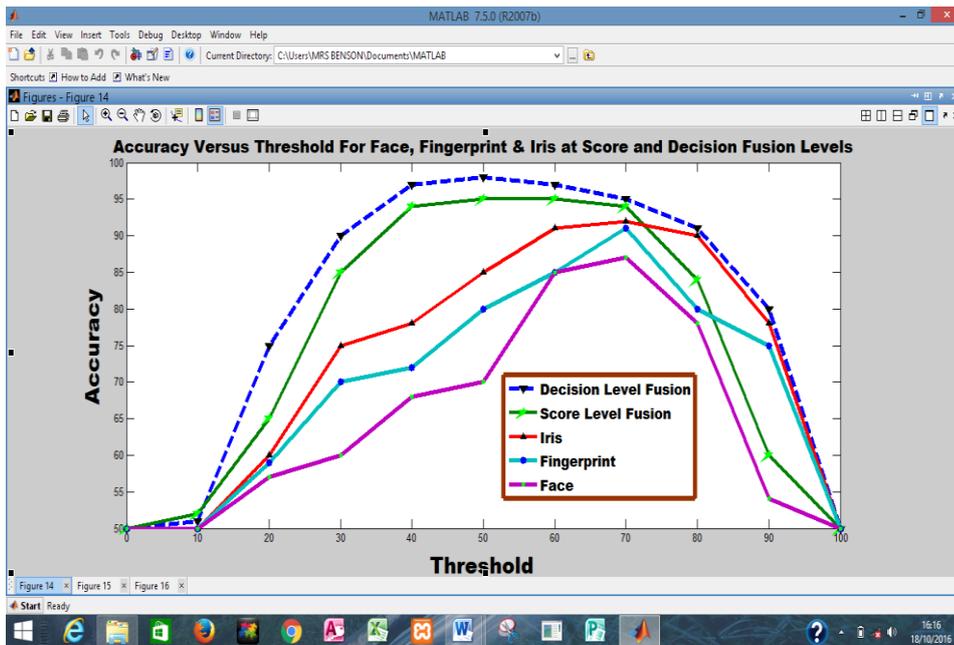


Figure 11: Comparison of Accuracy levels obtained

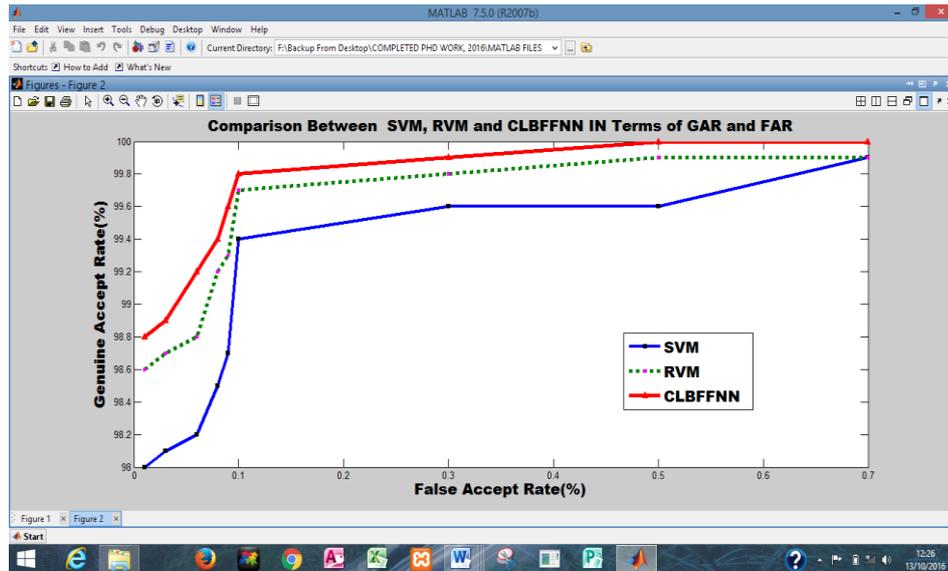


Figure 12: Comparing SVM and RVM Classifiers with CLBFFNN

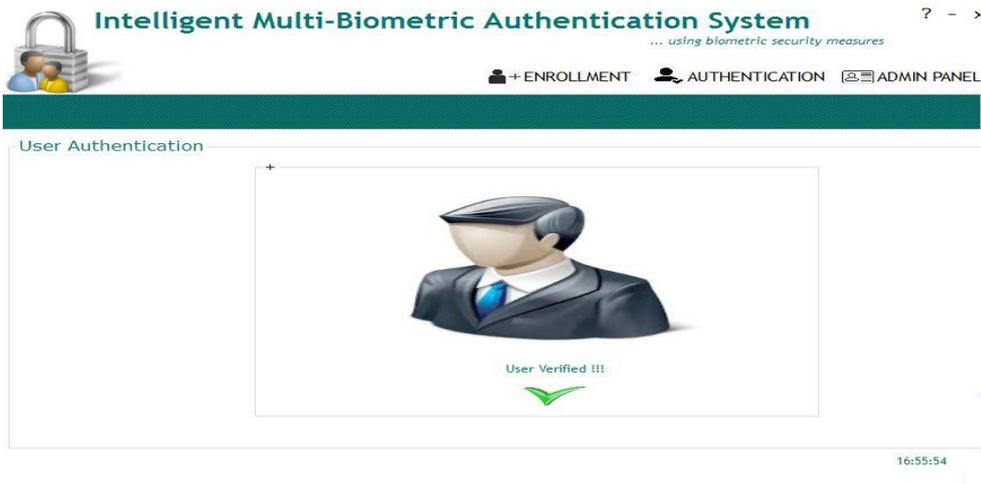


Figure 13: Authentication showing access guaranteed

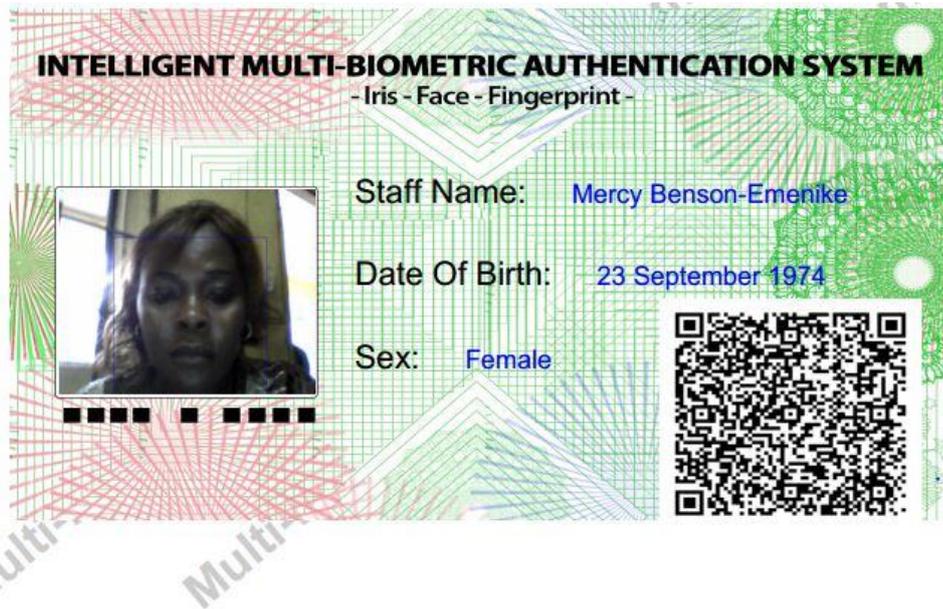


Figure 14: The ID card with an OCR Barcode

8. CONCLUSION

Security is an all-important phenomenon in the establishment, growth and sustenance of any establishment, organization and society. The use of biometrics has substantially superseded the traditional techniques which have some shortcomings such as one could forget, misplace, lose or steal tokens, since they are not based on natural traits. Biometrics is a division of science that uses computer knowledge to establish human identification or authentication, based on a person's behavioral or physical characteristics.

For secure authentication, this research considers a trimodal multi-biometric authentication system with fingerprint, iris, and face modalities. The implementation involves image capture (i.e. capturing of face poses and iris using webcam and fingerprints using Optical fingerprint scanner); application of efficient pre-processing techniques and neural network training.

A classifier, Cascaded Link-Based Feed Forward Neural Networks (CLBFFNN), which is a feed-forward neural network trained with back propagation algorithm is used. The APIC, PROI and EEF methods were used for iris, fingerprint and face image capture and processing respectively. The system and general recognition performance were evaluated using the following metrics: security, data quality, usability, accuracy, FAR, FRR, FTE, GAR, and throughput. Also, OCR with intelligent barcodes is used to make the system more secure and efficient. Finally, the system when compared with other existing system gives a better recognition performance and accuracy.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

For further study, I recommend, that a special sensor that could combine the image capturing and preprocessing of the three traits simultaneously should be built. This will further increase the recognition time and throughput of the biometric system.

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