

# Fairness is in the details : Face Dataset Auditing

## Key ideas

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- Why audit an image dataset & Difficulty? Image inherently encodes explicit features
- Bias definition : distribution equivalence for:
  - ① Parity test (one sensitive variable):  
 $\mathcal{H}_0 : \mathcal{D}(\{G\}) \sim B(p)$ , expected distribution (i.e., gender :  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ )
  - ② Equal representation test (two sensitive variables):  
 $\mathcal{H}_0 : \mathcal{D}(\{\text{Fitz} | G = \text{Male}\}) \sim \mathcal{D}(\{\text{Fitz} | G = \text{Female}\})$

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- What is an audit? Analyzing decision-making, sensitive variables such as Gender ( $G$ ), Age, Ethnicity with Fitzpatrick scale (Fitz)
- Why audit an image dataset & Difficulty? Image inherently encodes explicit features
- Bias definition : distribution equivalence for:
  - 1 Parity test (one sensitive variable):  
 $\mathcal{H}_0 : \mathcal{D}(\{G\}) \sim B(p)$ , expected distribution (i.e., gender :  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ )
  - 2 Equal representation test (two sensitive variables):  
 $\mathcal{H}_0 : \mathcal{D}(\{\text{Fitz}|G = \text{Male}\}) \sim \mathcal{D}(\{\text{Fitz}|G = \text{Female}\})$
- Ensuring result : statistical guarantees
  - 1  $\chi^2$  test
  - 2 CLT-based test
  - 3 Wasserstein-based test

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- Generated images & CelebA

- Some information on the sensitive variable for those datasets

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- Ablation study on the Neural Network choices

- Parity results (one sensitive variable) and error-aware framework impact

- Equal representation results (two sensitive variables) and error-aware framework impact

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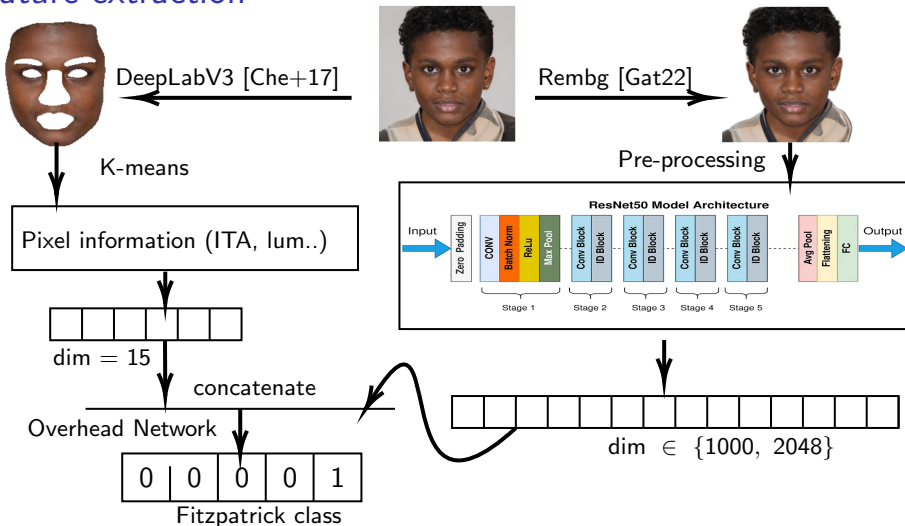
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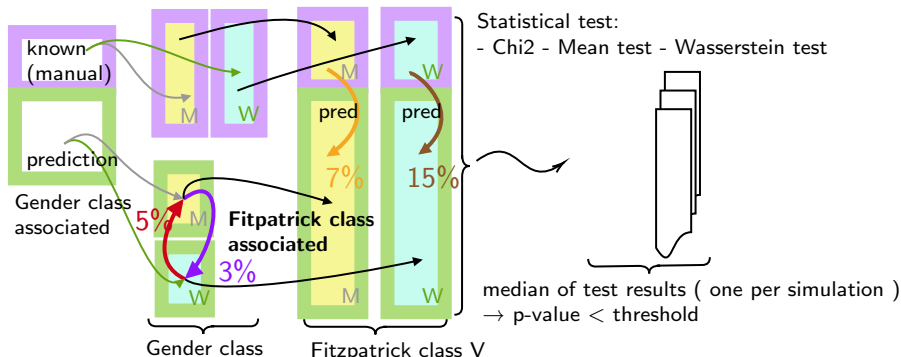
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# Neural Network Architecture, with pixel information feature extraction



# Diagram explaining our error-aware testing pipeline in an equal representation test of the Fitzpatrick class V conditioned by the gender

| Accuracy / Precision (%)                 |                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gender (G)                               | Men (M) : 97 %<br>→ 3% permutation with W                                                                                                                                 | Women (W) : 95 %<br>→ 5% permutation with M                                                                                                                                |
| Fitzpatrick class V given G ( $Fitz_v$ ) | V knowing predicted M : 93 %<br>$\{\hat{X}_{Fitz_v}   \hat{X}_G = M\} \leftarrow 7\% \text{ replacement}$<br>$x \sim \mathcal{U}(X_{Fitz_v}   X_G = M, X_{pred} = False)$ | V knowing predicted W : 85 %<br>$\{\hat{X}_{Fitz_v}   \hat{X}_G = W\} \leftarrow 15\% \text{ replacement}$<br>$x \sim \mathcal{U}(X_{Fitz_v}   X_G = W, X_{pred} = False)$ |



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- 1 Generated images<sup>1</sup> by GAN: 10k imgs (aims for ethnic diversity)
- 2 Subset of CelebA<sup>2</sup>: 1.5K real images



**Figure:** Fitzpatrick classification (5 class) from the left to right Phototype I, II, III-IV, V, VI. The first row is GAN dataset, the second is the CelebA dataset.

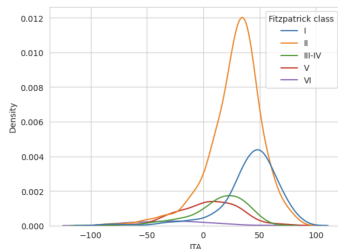
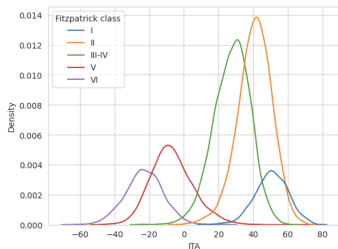
<sup>1</sup><https://generated.photos/solutions/academic-research>

<sup>2</sup>Liu, Z., Luo, P., Wang, X., Tang, X.: Deep learning face attributes in the wild. In: ICCV (December 2015)

Some information on the sensitive variable for those datasets

| Age distribution    | 0-2 | 3-9 | 10-19 | 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60-69 | 70+  |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| Real [wor22][our22] | 2   | 12  | 17    | 17    | 15    | 13    | 11    | 8     | 7    |
| Predicted CelebA    | 0   | 0.3 | 3     | 48    | 26    | 11    | 7     | 4     | 0.1  |
| Predicted GAN       | 0.3 | 4   | 6     | 61    | 22    | 4     | 2     | 0.3   | 0.05 |

**Table:** Age distribution : Real estimated and our datasets (%)



**Figure:** Probability density of Individual Typology Angle (ITA) given the Fitzpatrick class, GAN distribution on the left, CelebA distribution on the right. ITA implementation by [TJX23; Mer+19].

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## Architecture and hyperparameters usefulness

| Hyperparameter           | GAN  | CelebA |
|--------------------------|------|--------|
| Skin information (ITA..) | +0.6 | +0.2   |
| Overhead network choice  | +3.7 | +4.2   |
| Skin mask                | -1.7 | +1.2   |
| Removing background      | +0.1 | +1.8   |
| Latent space size (2048) | +1.9 | +2.7   |

**Table:** Impact of hyperparameters and architecture for neural network designed to classify the Fitzpatrick scale on the GAN and CelebA datasets.

## Parity results (and ablation)

| Sensitive Variable | Sample Size |     |      |      |      | Sample Size |     |      |                  |
|--------------------|-------------|-----|------|------|------|-------------|-----|------|------------------|
|                    | 100         | 500 | 1000 | 3000 | 8000 | 100         | 500 | 1000 | 1200             |
| Gender             | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| Age                |             |     |      |      |      |             |     |      |                  |
| 0-2                | ✓           | ✓   | ✓    | ✓    | ✓    | ✓           | ✓   | ✓    | ✓                |
| 3-9                | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| 10-19              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| 20-29              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| 30-39              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| 40-49              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ✓           | ✓   | ✓    | ✓                |
| 50-59              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ✓           | ✓   | ✓    | ✓                |
| 60-69              | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| 70+                | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| Fitzp. Class       |             |     |      |      |      |             |     |      |                  |
| I                  | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| II                 | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| III- IV            | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×                |
| V                  | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ✓    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ✓                |
| VI                 | ×           | ×   | ×    | ×    | ×    | ×           | ×   | ×    | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> |

(a) GAN

(b) CelebA

Statistical test on the parity of Gender ( $\mathcal{H}_0 : p = 0.5$ ) and the real distribution for the Fitzpatrick class and Age ( $\mathcal{H}_0$  : marginal and global distributions are equivalent). ✓, ✓<sub>2/3</sub> and × respectively means that 0, 1 or at least 2 tests rejected  $\mathcal{H}_0$ . Colored cell means that the test result are different because of the error-aware protocol: ■ means that, thanks to the error-aware method, less test rejected  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

## Equal representation results (and ablation)

| Sensitive Variable | Sample Size      |                  |                  |                  |                  | Sample Size      |                  |                  |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                    | 100              | 500              | 1000             | 3000             | 8000             | 100              | 500              | 1000             | 1200             |
| <b>Age</b>         |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| 0-2                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 3-9                | ✓                | ✓                | ✗                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 10-19              | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 20-29              | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓                | ✗                | ✓                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                |
| 30-39              | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓                | ✓                |
| 40-49              | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 50-59              | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 60-69              | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| 70+                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| <b>Fitz. Class</b> |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |
| I                  | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✗                | ✗                |
| II                 | ✗                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                |
| III- IV            | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                | ✓                |
| V                  | ✗                | ✗                | ✓                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✗                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓                |
| VI                 | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✗                | ✓                | ✗                | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> | ✓ <sub>2/3</sub> |

(a) GAN

(b) CelebA

Equal repr. test on the for the Fitz. class and the Age, with respect to each reflected closest binary gender subgroup.  $\mathcal{H}_0$ : The Fitz. or Age distribution of the men subgroup is the same as the women subgroup. ■ and respectively ■ mean that, because of the error-aware method, more test or respectively less test rejected  $\mathcal{H}_0$ .

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# Conclusion

- New bias auditing method with the following properties :
  - ① minimize the need for manual annotation (100-1000 annotations)
  - ② robust to errors in automated annotation (tools against false rejection of  $\mathcal{H}_0$ )
- Highlighted discrepancies in tests results → Majority vote
- For applied cases : Importance of assessing the representativity of individuals
  - ① training dataset
  - ② when analyzing the results