

Google: Our New System for Recognizing Faces is the Best One Ever

New advances in facial recognition are a step forward for an artificial intelligence technique called deep learning.

By Derrick Harris
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Note from Pastor Kevin Lea: This article provides more evidence that we are close to the literal fulfillment of last days' biblical prophecy. Facial recognition technology, which can identify anyone, at any time, in any place there is a camera, will likely be a major tool in the hands of the global police state under the control of the coming antichrist.

So they [unbelieving inhabitants of the world] worshiped the dragon [Satan] who gave authority to the beast [the antichrist]; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" [because of his power to control the world] It was granted to him to make war with the saints [those who refuse to worship Satan or the antichrist, and instead worship Jesus] and to overcome them [hunt them down and kill them, using tools like face recognition]. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. [Antichrist will control the entire world.] Revelation 13:4, 7 NKJV

"I never forget a face," some people like to boast. It's a claim that looks quaint by the day as artificial intelligence research continues to advance. Some computers, it turns out, never forget 260 million faces.

Last week, a trio of Google [GOOG](#) -0.29% researchers [published a paper](#) on a new artificial intelligence system dubbed FaceNet that it claims represents the most-accurate approach yet to recognizing human faces. FaceNet achieved nearly 100-percent accuracy on a popular facial-recognition dataset called [Labeled Faces in the Wild](#), which includes more than 13,000 pictures of faces from across the web. Trained on a massive 260-million-image dataset, FaceNet performed with better than 86 percent accuracy.

Researchers benchmarking their facial-recognition systems against Labeled Faces in the Wild are testing for what they call "verification." Essentially, they're measuring how good the algorithms are at determining whether two images are of the same person.

In December, a team of Chinese researchers also claimed better than 99 percent accuracy on the dataset. Last year, [Facebook researchers published a paper](#) boasting better than 97 percent accuracy. The Facebook [FB](#) 2.42% paper points to researchers claiming that humans analyzing images in the Labeled Faces dataset only achieve 97.5 percent accuracy.

However, the approach Google's researchers took goes beyond simply verifying whether two faces are the same. Its system can also put a name to a face—classic facial recognition—and even present collections of faces that look the most similar or the most distinct.

This is all just research, but it points to a near future where the types of crime-fighting, or surveillance-enhancing, computers we often see on network television and blockbuster movies will be much more ...

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