Beyond Speech: Generalizing D-Vectors for Biometric Verification*

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Abstract
Deep learning based automatic feature extraction methods have radically transformed speaker identification and facial recognition. Current approaches are typically specialized for individual domains, such as Deep Vectors (D-Vectors) for speaker identification. We provide two distinct contributions: a generalized framework for biometric verification inspired by D-Vectors and novel models that outperform current state-of-the-art approaches. Our approach supports substitution of various feature extraction models and improves the robustness of verification tests across domains. We demonstrate the framework and models for two different behavioral biometric verification problems: keystroke and mobile gait. We present a comprehensive empirical analysis comparing our framework to the state-of-the-art in both domains. Our models perform verification with higher accuracy using orders of magnitude less data than state-of-the-art approaches in both domains. We believe that the combination of high accuracy and practical data requirements will enable application of behavioral biometric models outside of the laboratory in support of much-needed improvements to cyber security.

Introduction
Automatic feature extraction is revolutionizing the application of machine learning. The advent of deep learning has given rise to viable automatic feature extraction methods (LeCun, Bengio, and Hinton 2015) that derive latent features from high-dimensional problem spaces with little-to-no domain knowledge. This approach has been demonstrably more effective than traditional handcrafted features, leading to breakthroughs in computer vision (Krizhevsky, Sutskever, and Hinton 2012), speech recognition (Graves, Mohamed, and Hinton 2013), and artificial intelligence (Silver and Hassabis 2016).

Deep learning is leading to similar advancements in biometrics, where it has been successfully applied to facial (Taigman et al. 2014) and speaker recognition (Snyder et al. 2017). One such advancement is an approach for speaker verification known as Deep Vectors (D-Vectors) (Variani et al. 2014). Speaker verification, and biometric verification in general, is the process of positively identifying an individual based upon their unique biometric patterns, such as speech. This technology has many important applications including secure computer access (Smith 2018) and fraud detection (Cowley 2018).

D-Vectors automatically extracts a latent feature space from speech audio that effectively separates the uniquenesses of individuals. This approach has demonstrated significant improvements over competing speaker verification methods with regard to equal error rates (EER) and robustness to noise (Variani et al. 2014; Heigold et al. 2016); however, the D-Vectors approach and models are not passive, require explicitly formatted input to function, and specific to speaker verification. As such, D-Vectors has not been explored outside of speaker verification.

In this paper, we present a novel framework, inspired by D-Vectors, that generalizes beyond speaker verification and can readily be applied to any biometric verification problem. The only requirements for the application of this framework are user-labeled data and a parameterized model for feature extraction. As evidence of the framework’s generality, we apply it to two distinctly different and challenging behavioral verification problems, keystroke and mobile gait. Unlike in prior applications of D-Vectors, the data was collected passively and few assumptions are made upon input sequences. Additionally, we provide an empirical evaluation that shows our approach is more robust and significantly outperforms modern state-of-the-art (SOA) verification methods for these modalities. Our key contributions can be summarized as follows:

- Generalization of D-Vectors as a framework for any biometric verification problem
- Improvements to the robustness of similarity scoring by incorporating two additional distance measures
- Detailed descriptions of how the framework can be applied to keystroke and mobile gait verification
- A novel featurization model for keystroke data that breaks from four decades of research and dramatically improves performance
- A comprehensive empirical study comparing our approach across two distinct domains and three independent

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datasets against the latest comparable SOA methods

- Results across domains demonstrating significant reductions in EER, by greater than 10%
- Our approach demonstrates orders of magnitude reductions in data requirements

Background

Traditionally, handcrafted features are used for biometric verification; a probe (“sample”) composed of those features is compared against a user’s signature(s) to determine if the probe data matches the patterns defined in the signature(s). The signature is a model or a distribution that describes a user’s behavior in a given context (e.g., keystroke timings). This is true for the two behavior biometric domains we study in this paper, keystroke and mobile gait verification.

Current SOA engineered features in keystroke biometric verification are extracted from key-pairs (i.e., digraphs) or n-grams. For every pair or n-gram several features are extracted based on the timings of the press and release of the keys (Dora et al. 2013). These features are then compared using a distance metric or traditional classification algorithm (Banerjee and Woodard 2012).

Gait detection using inertial sensors, specifically those available in mobile phones, has received far less attention (Lu et al. 2014). Tri-axial accelerometer and gyroscope are the most commonly used mobile sensors for gait analysis. Typically, arbitrarily-sized windows are drawn from the samples and features are extracted from these windows. Features are often drawn from both the time and frequency domains, and often include standard statistical measures (mean, standard deviation, etc.). Classification algorithms are then applied to these features, with each window representing a sample (Anguita et al. 2013).

While handcrafted features can be effective, they require a well-defined connection between the data and behavioral models, excessive data filtering, and extensive outlier detection. It can also be difficult to find features that capture the signal of the model and not the noise. These shortcomings have been demonstrated on several occasions by keystroke dynamics researchers. Killourhy & Maxion (Killourhy and Maxion 2009) and Murphy et al. (Murphy et al. 2017) compared algorithms reported by several different studies on various datasets, including real-world datasets, and found that the performance of these algorithms often degraded significantly outside of laboratory settings.

Automatic feature extraction can improve on these weaknesses and minimizes bias introduced by human-defined features. To this end, D-Vectors were originally developed for speaker verification with “Ok Google” (Variani et al. 2014). The authors use speech processing and a small Deep Neural Network (DNN) to perform automatic feature extraction to derive a feature set for speaker representations that outperforms standard methods and is more robust to noise. Heigold et al. (Heigold et al. 2016) implemented an alternative end-to-end approach for training D-Vector representations that trains the model directly on the verification task rather than using an intermediary classification step. This approach introduces several layers of complexity to produce statistically significant, yet marginal, improvements to accuracy. Our approach generalizes Variani et al.’s (Variani et al. 2014) classification approach to provide a framework that operates independently of the data type.

Method: D-Vectors

In this paper, we show that D-Vectors can be generalized beyond speaker verification and applied, as a framework for training and employing DNNs, to any verification problem. Figure 1 is a block diagram of our general D-Vector framework. Our architecture employs a base DNN model that feeds two distinct phases: training and execution. In the training phase, the model parameters are tuned to learn the latent feature space described by the D-Vector. This is followed by the execution phase, where D-Vector values are used as signatures and similarity scores are calculated to perform verification.

Figure 1: D-Vector framework diagram. This diagram depicts both the training and execution phases.

Both phases share the same base DNN model. The model starts with the Raw Sensor Input that accepts sensor readings from whichever modality of biometrics is being measured. This is followed by Domain Specific Modeling Layers which contains pre-processing techniques and a DNN. First, we transform the raw data into a usable format for the DNN. The DNN must be carefully designed to appropriately model the problem. For the two biometric modalities that we apply the framework to, keystroke and gait, we provide details on the design of these layers in greater detail in subsequent sections. The model ends at the D-Vector Layer which, once trained, describes a point in a latent feature space that is highly discriminative between subjects.

The objective of the training phase is to tune the base model to learn and extract the latent feature space that can generalize beyond the users that were in the training corpus. To do this, an additional Softmax Layer is appended to the base model. This layer is a one-dimensional vector
of length \( n \), where \( n \) is equal to the number of subjects in the training corpus. This layer enables us to train the DNN as a standard \( n \)-class classification problem using logistic regression. Each output node on the softmax layer corresponds to the predicted probability that a specific subject created the data sample. We optimize and train the DNN using a cross entropy loss function on the prediction error. We hypothesize that the classification training process will automatically extract features that are discriminative between the various subjects in the training corpus and that these features generalize well, assuming that the training corpus is sufficiently representative of the intended target population. Once training is complete, the Softmax Layer is discarded and we are left with a model that translates subject data into points within the discriminative D-Vector space.

After training, the DNN model can be employed in the execution phase. This phase includes subject enrollment (signature generation) and similarity evaluations (comparison of D-Vector samples against a signature). Enrollment involves multiple D-Vector samples from a single subject and averages them to produce a single D-Vector that can be used as a signature for that subject.

Once this Enrollment Signature is collected, it can be verified against one or more Test Vectors using similarity measures to verify whether the test vector is from the same subject as the enrollment signature. This is accomplished by the Similarity Scoring function of the architecture. Unlike the original D-Vector work, our approach uses a combination of three scoring measures: cosine similarity, \( L^2 \) distance, and \( z \)-score using logistic regression. Later in our empirical study, we show that the additional measures, \( L^2 \) distance and \( z \)-score, increases the accuracy of the approach beyond cosine similarity alone. Finally, these scores are combined as features to a binary logistic regression classifier, Verifier, that learns an appropriate threshold for verifying if the signature and test vector are from the same subject. This last classifier can be trained by reusing the original training corpus or a secondary corpus.

**Keystroke Verification**

While the D-Vector framework itself is data-agnostic, its success depends on the design and implementation of an appropriate model for data type. The model must be carefully designed to capture the relevant patterns within the data. We describe a novel design for a DNN model of keystroke data that captures more information than prior methods and, thus, produces more accurate results.

Classical approaches to keystroke verification use aggregate key-pair timing statistics to model these parameters. A major shortcoming of this approach is that the statistics do not model long-term (beyond two keys) inter-key patterns that may be present in keystroke data. Our initial keystroke model fed these traditional \( n \)-gram features into a simple neural network with three fully connected layers. This only produced a minor improvement over SOA methods, so we employed an alternative approach that uses more of the data and discovers long-term patterns. We hypothesize that such patterns provide valuable verification information that can be automatically extracted using an appropriate model.

**Preprocessing**

The keystroke data ingested by our model was collected by recording key events that occur every time a key is pressed or released. Three values are recorded for each key event: the unique key identifier, whether the event was a press or release, and a timestamp of the event in milliseconds. Once collected, we perform minor processing before feeding it to our model. First, the timestamps are converted to relative times; the first keystroke in a session is discarded and the other time values are calculated as the difference in timestamps between each key event, \( \Delta t \). Next, any \( \Delta t \) greater than 500 ms is removed, as this represents a sufficiently long pause not reflective of fluid typing motions. Finally, the \( \Delta t \) values are transformed into scores between zero and one and normalized. We found that key timings follow an exponential distribution, so the mean of the training dataset is taken and values are transformed using the exponential cumulative distribution function:

\[
y = 1 - e^{-\lambda \Delta t}
\]

where \( y \) is the transformed timing value and \( \lambda \) is the mean.

![Figure 2: DNN architecture for keystroke; the boxes represent convolutional filters, top dimensions and images represent layer input, and bottom dimensions represent the size of a filter.](image)

**Automatic Feature Extraction**

Figure 2 provides an overview of our keystroke model. The intent of this model is to capture local patterns, occurring within a small window of time, from key event timings. As such, we convert the processed data into images of sequential key events that are modeled by a deep Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) that can extract those patterns. The images are 250x20x2 pixels and composed of 250 sequential key events (rows) by the top 20 most frequently used keys (columns) by the event type (color channel). We only use events from the top 20 most used keys, as including additional keys makes the images too sparse. Color channels in the images represent the event type; the green channel is a key press and red is a key release. The intensity of pixel values are the \( y \) values from the above equation.
Once the data has been converted to images, they are fed to the model for feature extraction. The first convolution layer in the model is designed to detect features from a single key press and release series of events. Users who type quickly or use various hot-keys often produce keys that are out of sequence, in that the press of one key is followed by the press of another, rather than the release of the first. In our analysis of keystroke data, we found that press and release events for a single key generally occur within three events of one another, so we use convolutional filters of size 3x1 and stride 1 to extract these features. This layer is followed by a mean pooling layer, which is performed across seven rows – determined through empirical evaluation – in each column. This operation stretches the events over multiple rows increasing the overlap of events between keys.

The second convolution layer extracts features across multiple keys, while still locally in time. We use convolutional filters of size 7x20 and stride 1 to discover features that describe how subjects type certain sequences of keys. This layer also reduces the dimensionality of the image by not using padding, which reduces the number of columns to one and produces six fewer rows than the input image. The last layer of the CNN is a second mean pool; functionally, it removes dependence on location (within the image) of the sequence of keys that activated the filter. It then feeds into a final Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) activated layer that serves as the D-Vector Layer. Dropout is applied aggressively, 75%, to this last layer to prevent over-fitting.

Our keystroke verification approach drew inspiration from traditional handcrafted features, as seen in the construction of the convolutional layers, while greatly simplifying the data processing and outlier detection performed. This approach shows how any verification domain can take advantage of the D-Vectors framework and the benefits that it provides by drawing inspiration from and simplifying traditional processing methods.

Mobile Gait Verification

We also apply our D-Vector framework to mobile gait verification. Visual gait verification examines video for features, whereas the features for mobile gait verification are extracted from accelerometer or gyroscopic sensors placed directly on the subject. Our analysis seeks to determine if there are regular, unique patterns in how an individual walks that can be reliably detected by an inertial sensor and used to verify or identify a subject. SOA approaches to this problem employ standard signal processing to extract features based upon frequency and power of the signals (Lu et al. 2014; Kumar, Phoha, and Serwadda 2016). In this section, we describe a novel DNN model that extracts a more discriminative latent feature space for verification.

Preprocessing

For this domain, data is obtained in the $x$, $y$, and $z$ axes from both the accelerometer ($a_x$) and gyroscope ($\omega_z$) of a mobile phone placed in the subject’s hip pocket. For both sensors, readings are sampled at regular intervals, typically in the range of 50 to 100 Hz. Unfortunately, the values for each sensor reading are heavily dependent on the orientation and manufacturer of the device. If the issues they present are not mitigated, these dependencies can lead to misleading results (i.e., the learning algorithms pick up on the orientation of a device in an individual’s pocket). To eliminate orientation dependencies, we only use the magnitude of the accelerometer and gyroscope data. Following this procedure, leaving just the two magnitude signals as the input source. These signals are further processed by applying a median filter to remove individual noise spikes and a moving average filter to remove environmental noise.

Following those initial transformations and noise reduction steps, the data can be processed by our mobile gait model shown in Figure 3. As with the keystroke model, our goal with this model is to extract features for user verification and identification using minimal data. Rather than using fixed-time windows for our samples, which may or may not contain enough relevant step data, we perform step detection to isolate samples of data with six steps. Our assumption is that six sequential steps provide a sufficient window to exhibit identifiable features in walking data.

As a first step in isolating sample frames with six steps, we search for local minima in the accelerometer readings. Once the minima are detected, the values between the local minima are considered to be a part of a Step Pair, both a left and right step. The detected minima correspond only to either left or right steps based on which pocket the mobile phone is in. The minima for the opposite leg is significantly less pronounced and, thus, more difficult to detect, so the two are combined into one step pair (first graph in Figure 3). Step detection is performed only on the accelerometer data; however, as the gyroscope and accelerometer readings are synchronized, we are able to frame the data in identical locations. The left-most graph in Figure 3 shows typical accelerometer data with a six-step sample identified between the red and purple dashed lines.

We assume that the discriminative patterns are periodic, so signal processing features are ideal for modeling such patterns. These features are extracted in two stages. First, a periodogram estimate of the Power Spectral Density (PSD) is obtained (second graph in Figure 3). Then, the power spectrum produced by the PSD periodogram is fed into a triangular filterbank (third graph) to produce a fixed-length set of features. This process is based on the Mel-Frequency
Cepstrum Coefficient (MFCC) method used in speech processing to summarize the strength of the signal in each frequency. Filter coefficients are multiplied with the spectral density at each frequency and aggregated to calculate each filter value. These filters produce 20 values (10 each for accelerometer and gyroscope) and serve as the input for the DNN model.

Automatic Feature Extraction  The DNN in our model consists of three fully-connected ReLU activated layers. During the training process, only the parameters in these layers are updated, whereas all parameters in the previous processing steps are fixed. The DNN provides the D-Vectors framework with a model for extracting latent space features from the signal features. The size of each layer is shown in Figure 3. Finally, dropout is applied to each DNN layer, 50% on the first layer and 75% on the remaining two layers, to prevent over-fitting.

Our neural network architecture and design and processing drew from the original D-Vectors approach (Variani et al. 2014) because gait data is very similar in format to voice data: time series data sampled at a constant rate. Although every domain is different, data from different modalities with similar structure can use some of the same processing techniques for the D-Vector approach.

Empirical Study
In this section, we describe a series of experiments that demonstrate that our D-Vector framework can be applied to two distinctly different biometric verification problems and that it also surpasses the performance of prior SOA approaches in both domains. The two algorithms that we compare our approach against are the keystroke G&P verification algorithm (Gunetti and Picardi 2005) and the mobile gait verification algorithm by Lu et al (Lu et al. 2014) (Intel). We compare these algorithms with our approach (D-Vector) by accuracy, EER, robustness, and data efficiency.

Datasets
We use three datasets in our experiments to evaluate the robustness of the approaches and how their performance generalizes. The first dataset (MultiMod) is one we collected; it contains both keystroke and gait data, which we describe in detail below. Additionally, we use two publicly available datasets as benchmarks — one for keystroke (Clarkson) (Murphy et al. 2017) and gait (UCI) (Anguita et al. 2013).

For our MultiMod dataset, we employed a multi-phase experiment designed to replicate real-world activities to ensure that our model accuracy remained high in practice. 104 subjects performed a series of tasks on a desktop, smartphone, and tablet to produce fixed-text keystrokes, free-text keystrokes, and movement data. For fixed-text, the subjects transcribed three sentences that included the most common key pairs to ensure sufficient pairs for comparison both between users and devices. Free-text keystroke data was produced from online shopping and survey questions and movement data was collected by smartphones while subjects walked a track. The dataset contains approximately 1,200,000 desktop key-events, representing 4,242 samples, where a sample is 250 sequential key events, (Mean per user 41,588, Min. 15, Std. Dev. 7,959) and approximately 1,900,000 mobile (smartphone and tablet) key events, representing 4,645 samples (Mean per user 44,663, Min. 25, Std. Dev. 10,486). Accelerometer and gyroscope data was collected at 100 Hz. Our dataset contains approximately 147,200,000 movement events, of which 19,806,744 are walking motion events, divided evenly between accelerometer and gyroscope, representing 28,300 samples, where a sample is six steps of walking data (Mean per user 272.115, Min. 123, Std. Dev. 49.82).

The Clarkson benchmark keystroke dataset (Murphy et al. 2017) consists of 103 users collected over 2.5 years from subjects’ personal machines during normal interactions, representing a realistic use case. The dataset consists of 87 users with sufficient data. There are 40,380 total samples, with a mean of 484 samples per user (Std. Dev. 587). The number of samples per user varied significantly from the MultiMod dataset, as subjects could enable or disable the keylogger at any time.

Finally, we use the UCI (Anguita et al. 2013) dataset as our benchmark for mobile gait. Unlike the MultiMod dataset, it was collected at a sampling rate of 50 Hz. As with MultiMod, only the walking data from this dataset is used. There are 1,769 total extracted samples from 30 users in the dataset, with a mean of 59 samples per user (Std. Dev. 14).

Keystroke Verification Results
We compare our D-Vector keystroke verification approach with the SOA G&P approach. The G&P approach is based upon the traditional handcrafted key-pair features, described in the Background section, and provides a good contrast with our automatic feature extraction based method.

To train the D-Vectors models, the subjects are randomly partitioned into 70% for training and 30% for testing. In doing so, all testing is performed on users that the framework has never seen to demonstrate that the extracted D-Vector features can discriminate universally.

During testing, five randomly selected samples are used as enrollment samples for each user. Unlike D-Vectors, G&P does not require a separate training phase. Instead, it performs a pair-wise comparison of all enrolled subjects with a sample from an unlabeled subject (assumed to be an enrolled subject). For a fair comparison, we take five random samples (without replacement) for each subject to create enrollment signatures. When testing, samples from the same 30% split of subjects used with D-Vectors are used with G&P to ensure fairness.

Verification is performed by comparing enrollment signatures of the testing subjects against the remaining samples from the testing subjects. Performance of each method can be increased if additional samples, from the same subject, are used as test vectors and results combined. To demonstrate the performance increase, experiments using test vectors from one (1) and five (5) samples were performed. Each experiment is run 10 times using different random seeds.
Table 1: Keystroke verification results. It compares the D-Vector approach with the SOA G&P algorithm using one (1) and five (5) samples as test vectors. Standard deviation of the results are provided. Bold results are significantly better. Dashed results (-) indicate the approach failed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset</th>
<th>MultiMod</th>
<th>Clarkson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Test Vec.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-Vector</td>
<td>11.5 ± 0.2</td>
<td>7.2 ± 0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G&amp;P</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>26.3 ± 4.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 provides the results of these experiments. On the MultiMod dataset, D-Vectors greatly exceeds the performance of G&P, achieving an EER of just 11.5% using one (1) sample for a test vector and 7.7% when five (5) samples are used. Whereas, G&P manages just 26.3% EER using five samples of data as a test sample and fails entirely when only one sample is used. The reason for the failure is that there are not consistently enough matching bi-grams in enrollments and test samples of that size for G&P to compute its similarity measures accurately. Our approach is not burdened by this constraint. Results are similar on the Clarkson dataset, where D-Vectors achieves 15.3% and 8.7% respectively and G&P achieves just 26.1%. The slight drop in D-Vector’s performance on the Clarkson dataset is not unexpected, as the data is from unstructured activities and, as such, those results are more indicative of real-world performance.

The performance of the G&P approach on the Clarkson dataset is much worse than the 10.4% reported in (Murphy et al. 2017) because 10,000 keystroke events were used for enrollments and 1,000 keystroke events were used as samples for test vectors in that study. This and G&P’s inability to use small data samples demonstrates the data efficiency of D-Vectors, in that it can achieve similar or greater performance using far less data for enrollment and testing. Further, D-Vectors scales more effectively as the number of enrolled subjects increases. Calculating the similarity measures using D-Vectors is a linear time operation requiring just \( O(d + m) \) operations per verification test, whereas G&P is an \( O(d^2 m) \) operation where \( m \) is the number of enrolled subjects and \( d \) is the number of samples per enrollment. This difference translated to dramatic differences in run times. On a modern dual-CPU machine with GPU acceleration the D-Vectors method took a few hours to train and a few minutes to perform all the tests. Whereas, our G&P implementation took more than three days to compute these results.

Mobile Gait Verification Results

In our second set of experiments, we compare our D-Vectors mobile gait verification approach to the SOA Intel approach (Lu et al. 2014). These results emphasize the significance of the D-Vectors approach as a framework for extracting discriminative features rather than simply improvements to the model. Whereas the G&P and D-Vectors keystroke approaches use completely different models, our D-Vectors method uses a similar data processing model as the Intel model. The main distinctions are the manner in which the models are trained and that the D-Vector approach performs additional feature extraction with the DNN layers (beyond the signal processing steps), whereas Intel uses a Gaussian Mixture Model. Also, MFCC features are extracted using the full speech method in the Intel approach, which includes the higher frequency space and log scaling.

For fair comparison, we frame the data using the same step detection technique described earlier for preprocessing mobile gait data. A training-test split of 70/30% of the subject data is performed on the MultiMod dataset, similar to what was done in the prior experiments. In this case, both methods have training and execution phases and use the same data split. The UCI dataset does not contain enough data to effectively train and test our methods. As such, all UCI data was used in verification tests using models pre-trained on the MultiMod dataset. Again, enrollment signatures were comprised of 5 samples and all experiments were run 10 times using different random seeds for selection.

Table 2: Mobile gait verification results. It compares the D-Vector approach with the SOA Intel algorithm using one (1) and five (5) samples as test vectors. Standard deviation of the results are provided. Bold results are significantly better.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset</th>
<th>MultiMod</th>
<th>UCI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># Test Vec.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-Vector</td>
<td>17.5 ± 0.5</td>
<td>7.0 ± 1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intel</td>
<td>27.0 ± 0.7</td>
<td>24.2 ± 1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 provides the results of the comparison experiments. D-Vectors surpasses the Intel method by 10% on both datasets using just 1 sample to produce test vectors. If 5 samples are used the difference in performance becomes much more pronounced. The D-Vector approach benefits greatly from the additional data, reducing EER by 10% on the MultiMod dataset and 4% on UCI, whereas the Intel method does not benefit nearly as much.

Finally, the models for the UCI experiments had to be trained on the MultiMod dataset due to its small number of subjects. Despite being trained on a different dataset, the models from each approach generalized and transferred well. This supports our hypothesis that the D-Vectors automatically extracts and learns discriminative features that generalize well.

Multiple Similarity Scores

A novelty of our D-Vector framework over the original formulation (Variani et al. 2014) is the use of two additional similarity measures, \( L^2 \) and z-score, as opposed to only cosine similarity. In development we found the additional measures increased robustness of the approach to across different data modalities. Table 4 shows the EER obtained using the three different scoring measures individually and in combination on all the datasets and modalities we evaluated. The cosine score performs the best of all three individual measures for most datasets. However, on the UCI dataset, the \( L^2 \) metric provides significantly better accuracy than cosine.
Figure 4: D-Vector verification accuracy for one sample test vector while varying the signature size for both modalities. Accuracy here is the inverse of EER.

In combination, the three measures do generally improve the overall accuracy while never significantly increasing the ERR beyond what the single best measure achieves. To understand why, we measured the correlation, shown in Table 3, of the various scoring measures on the MultiMod dataset for both keystroke and mobile gait data. The results show that while the scores can be quite correlated, they each offer some additional information. Further, the results in Table 4 clearly show that all three measures can be used together with no significant loss and increased robustness over individual measures.

Table 3: Correlation coefficients between the three similarity measures on the MultiMod dataset.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Keystroke</th>
<th>Mobile Gait</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>z</td>
<td>L²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L²</td>
<td>0.726</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cos</td>
<td>0.693</td>
<td>0.770</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: EER of using similarity measures individually and combined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset/Modality</th>
<th>EER %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cosine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MultiMod/Keystroke</td>
<td>11.5 ± 0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarkson/Keystroke</td>
<td>16.1 ± 0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MultiMod/Gait</td>
<td>18.0 ± 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCI/Gait</td>
<td>19.3 ± 2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D-Vector Performance Considerations

In the next series of experiments, we examine multiple aspects of the D-Vectors approach that impact performance. The first of these factors is the amount of data used to produce an enrollment signature. Ideally, an enrollment signature requires minimal data to increase the practicality of the approach. Figure 4 shows the effect of increasing the number of samples in an enrollment signature on verification accuracy in both domains using the MultiMod dataset. Accuracy of the approach increases significantly until the signature is about five samples. Afterwards, there appears to be marginal returns for increasing the size of the signatures. Even signatures composed of a single sample are accurate and further demonstrate the data efficiency of the approach.

Next, we examine the effect of increasing the number of samples used as test vectors for performing verification. As with enrollment signatures, we seek to minimize the data. Figure 5 illustrates the performance of D-Vectors for both domains in the MultiMod dataset with enrollment signatures comprised of five samples. Increasing the number of samples used as test vectors can significantly improve accuracy, especially for gait verification. Improvements become marginal beyond five samples.

Finally, it is worth noting the performance increases that can be achieved by fusing results from different modalities. If multiple biometric modalities are available, such as in MultiMod, we can combine the predictions to improve overall accuracy. Using Bayes’ theorem with a uniform prior we can fuse the predictions as an ensemble. In our MultiMod dataset this ensemble achieves significantly greater performance, 2.5% EER, than either single modality test.

Conclusion

We have presented D-Vectors as a general purpose framework for training and employing DNN-based models for biometric verification problems. In support of this claim, we have described two novel approaches for performing keystroke and mobile gait verification with this framework. Further, we have provided a thorough empirical study that conclusively demonstrates our framework outperforms SOA approaches in both domains and showed that any number of these D-Vector modalities can be combined to improve accuracy. Finally, our models are able to perform this analysis using orders of magnitude less data than SOA approaches, enabling the practical use of behavioral biometrics.
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