

# Invariant Representations for Visual Forensic Tasks

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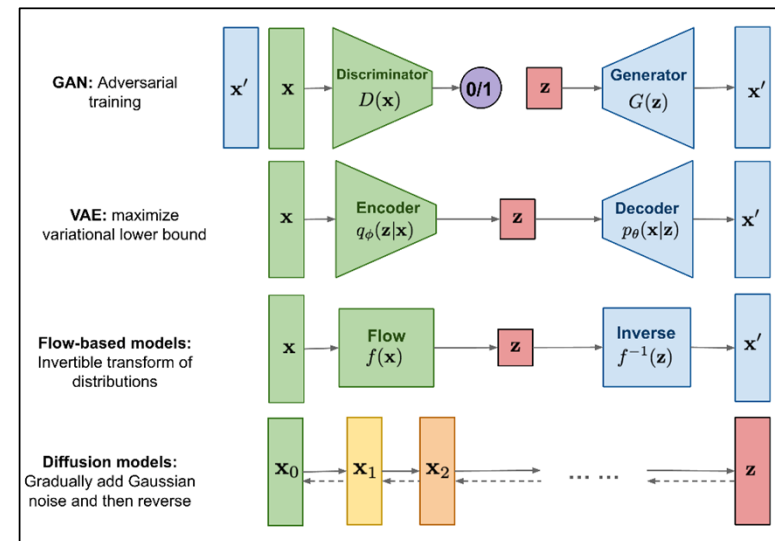
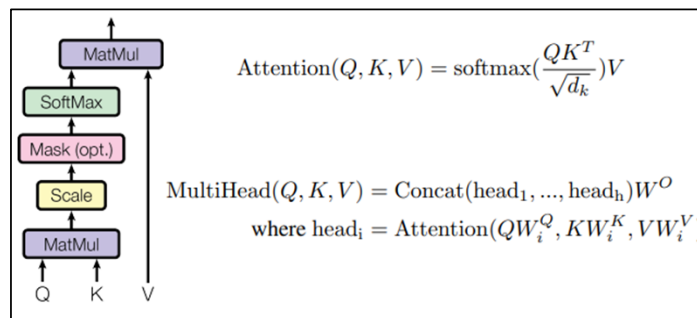
Department of Mathematics

The Chinese University of Hong Kong

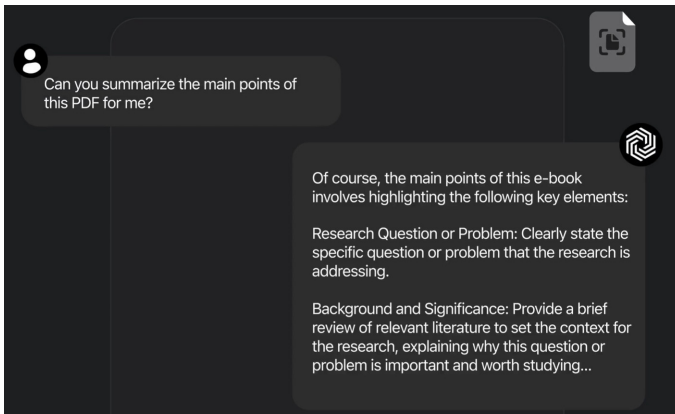
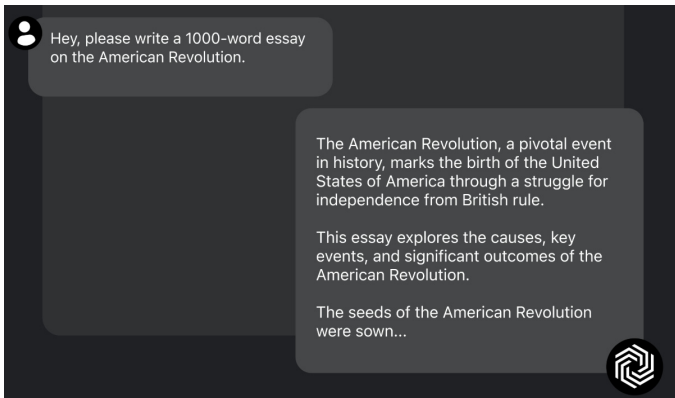


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# The Era of AIGC



# The Good





# The Bad and The Ugly



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

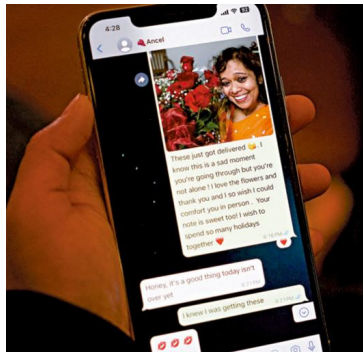
Surfaces and Interfaces

journal homepage: [www.sciencedirect.com/journal/surfaces-and-interfaces](http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/surfaces-and-interfaces)

## 1. Introduction

Certainly, here is a possible introduction for your topic: Lithium-metal batteries are promising candidates for high-energy-density rechargeable batteries due to their low electrode potentials and high theoretical capacities [1,2]. However, during the cycle, dendrites forming on the lithium metal anode can cause a short circuit, which can

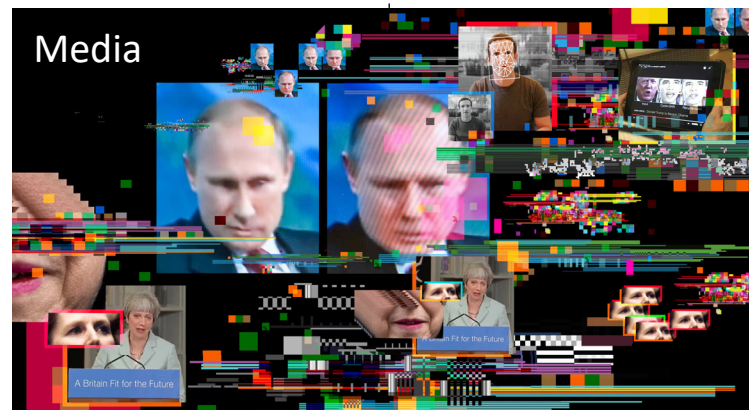
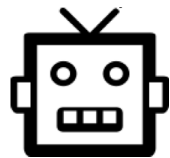
chemical stability of the separator is equal to the separator remains intact and does not enhance the electrolyte or other battery components further promote dendrite growth. Research different materials and designs for separator chemical strength and chemical stability





# Fighting Against AIGC Abuse

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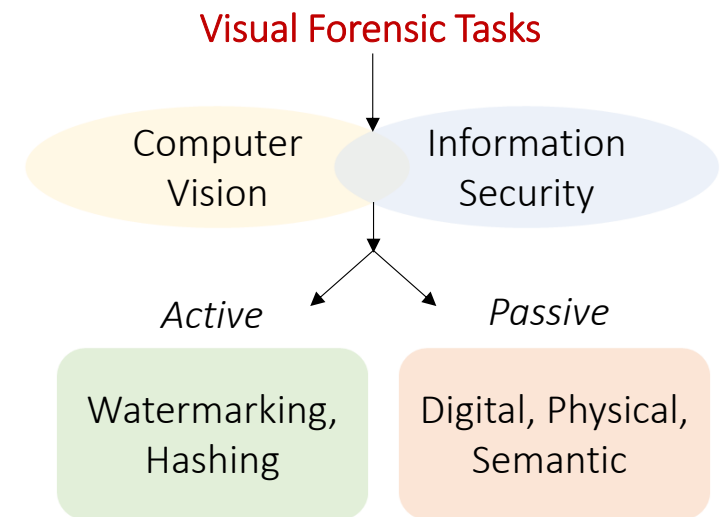
Real?  
Fake!

# Visual Forensic Tasks

## *at the intersection of vision and security*

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- Forensic research aims to check the authenticity of visual data, at the intersection of **computer vision** and **information security**.
- Forensic research is carried out in **active** and **passive** paths, depending on whether the action is taken before or after data distribution.
  - **Active forensics** are typically performed by embedding robust patterns in the image, i.e., digital *watermarking*, or extracting image fingerprints as registration, i.e., *hashing* and blockchain.
  - **Passive forensics** rely exclusively on the given image itself. They discover artifacts at *digital*, *physical*, and *semantic* levels, which are inevitably introduced by certain manipulations.

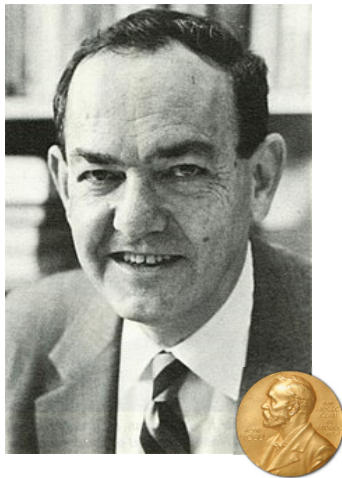
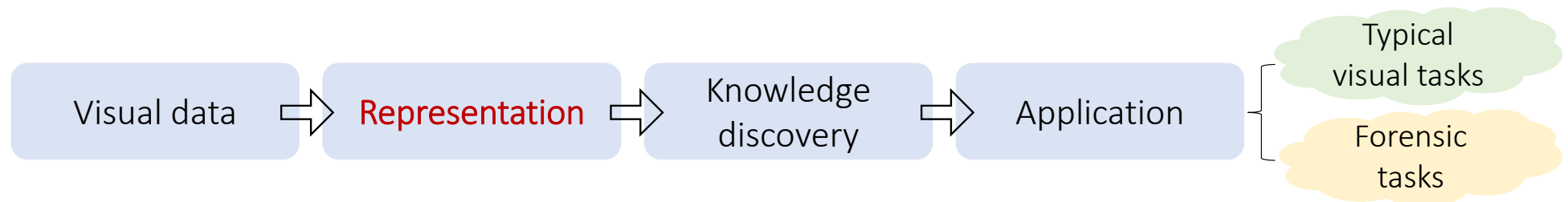


# Visual Forensic Tasks

## *consistency with typical visual tasks*

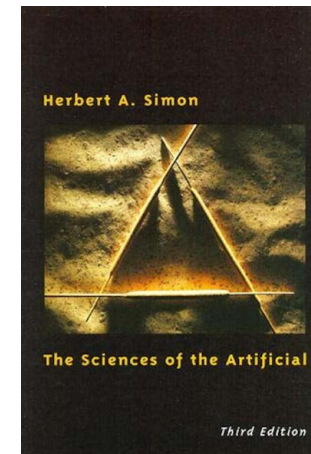
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- Similar to typical visual tasks (e.g., image classification), the effectiveness of visual forensic is also strongly dependent on proper representations.



H. Simon, 1969  
The Sciences of the Artificial

*"solving a problem simply means representing  
it so as to make the solution transparent"*



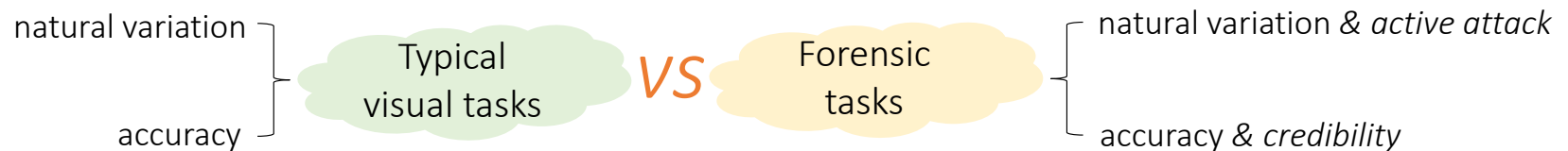


# Visual Forensic Tasks

## *differences from typical visual tasks*

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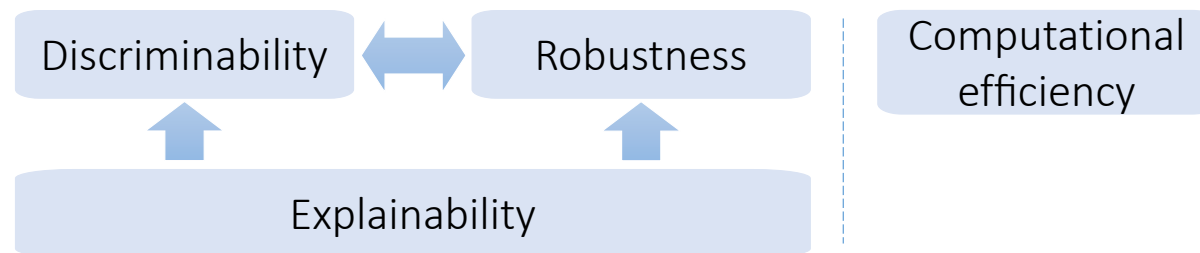
- Unlike typical visual tasks, forensic tasks show the basic features of information security research.
  - **Adversary:** there is always an adversary in forensics, so not only the natural variation, but also the active attack.
  - **Evidence and credibility:** forensics are required to provide judgmental evidence for debates, so not only the accuracy, but also the credibility.



# Image Representation for Visual Forensic Tasks

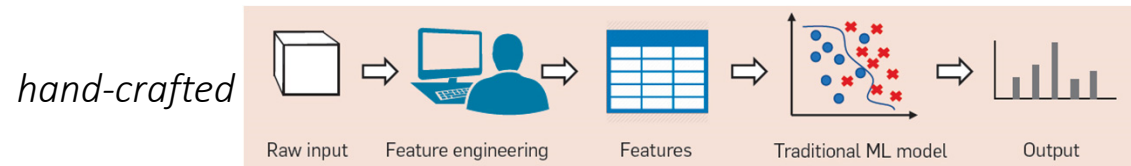
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- According to the consistency and difference between typical visual tasks and forensic tasks, the principles that image representations in forensic should satisfy are summarized here.
  - **Discriminability:** the representation is sufficiently informative for distinguishing between real and fake data.
  - **Robustness:** the representation is not influenced by variations that may be introduced by the adversary.
  - **Explainability:** the representation should have reliable theory guarantees, implying that causation is more important than correlation, due to the role as evidence.
  - **Computational efficiency:** the representation should have a reasonable implementation.



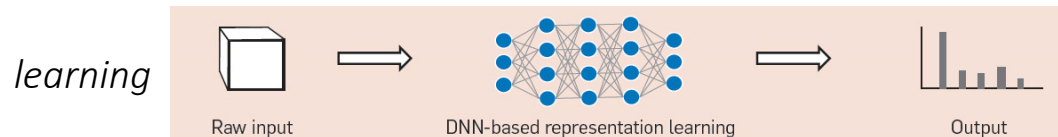
# Related Works

## *learning and hand-crafted representations*



- *Pros*: robustness and explainability
- *Cons*: discriminability

VS



- *Pros*: discriminability
- *Cons*: robustness and explainability



LeCun, Y., Bengio, Y. & Hinton, G. , 2015,  
Deep learning, Nature

The Selectivity–Invariance Dilemma:  
*“representations that are selective to the  
aspects that are important for discrimination,  
but that are invariant to irrelevant aspects”*





# Invariance/Symmetry Priori

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- In general, an AI system is a digital modeling of the physical systems in the natural world. Therefore, the exploitation level of natural priors determines the robustness and explainability level in the AI system.
- Among many priors, symmetry may be the most fruitful prior — informally, a symmetry of a system is a transformation that leaves a certain property of system invariant.



F. Klein, 1872  
Erlangen Program



E. Noether, 1918  
Noether's Theorem



H. Weyl, 1929  
The Book of Symmetry



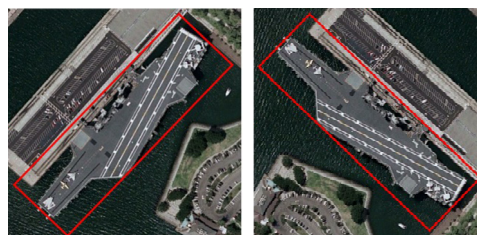
C. N. Yang & R. L. Mills, 1954  
Yang-Mills Theory



# Invariance/Symmetry Prior is Ubiquitous



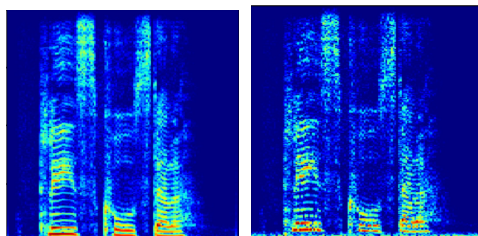
Image Classification  
position



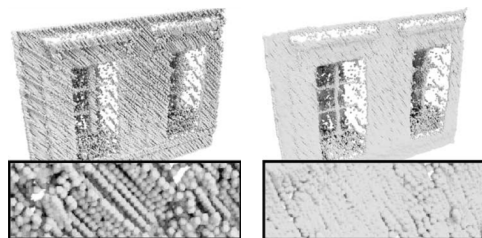
Remote Sensing  
orientation



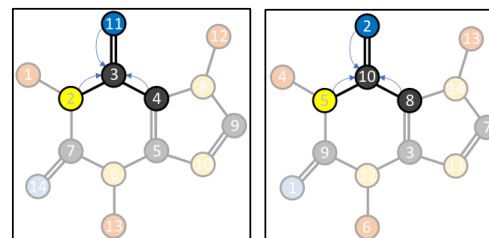
Self-driving Car  
motion blurring



Speech Command  
time warping



Point Cloud  
Analysis  
noise

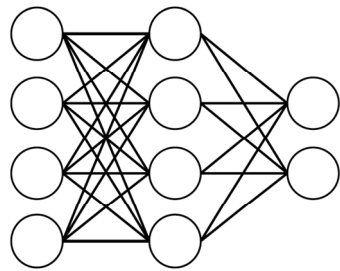


Prediction of  
Molecular Properties  
permutation

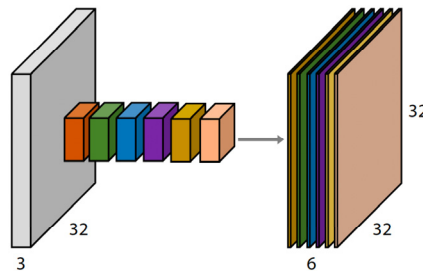
# Representations Equipped with Symmetry/Invariance

## *Geometric Deep Learning*

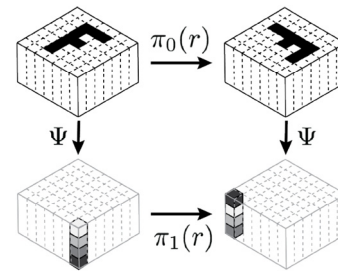
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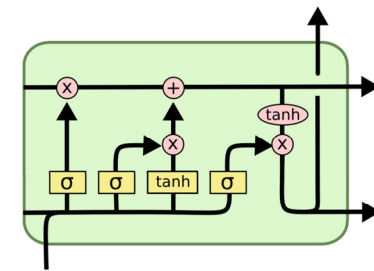
Perceptrons  
function regularity



CNNs  
translation



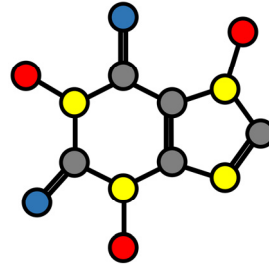
Group-CNNs  
translation+rotation



LSTMs  
time warping



DeepSets /Transformers  
permutation



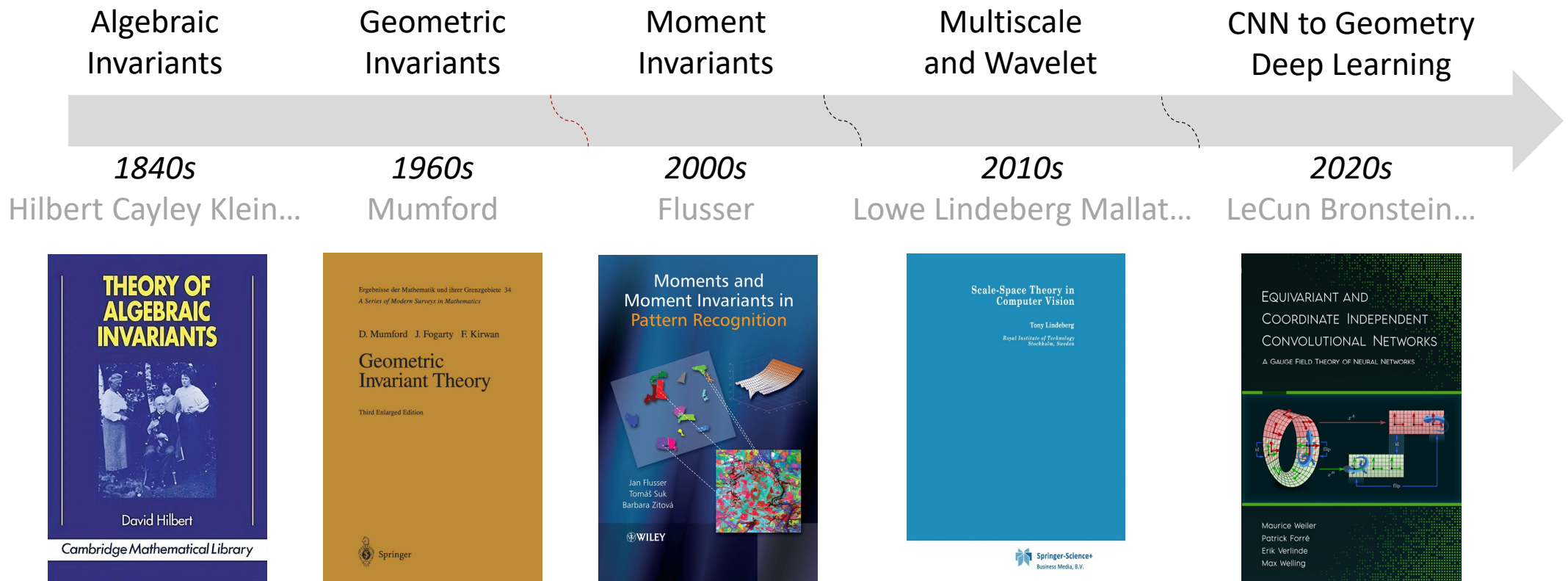
GNNs  
permutation



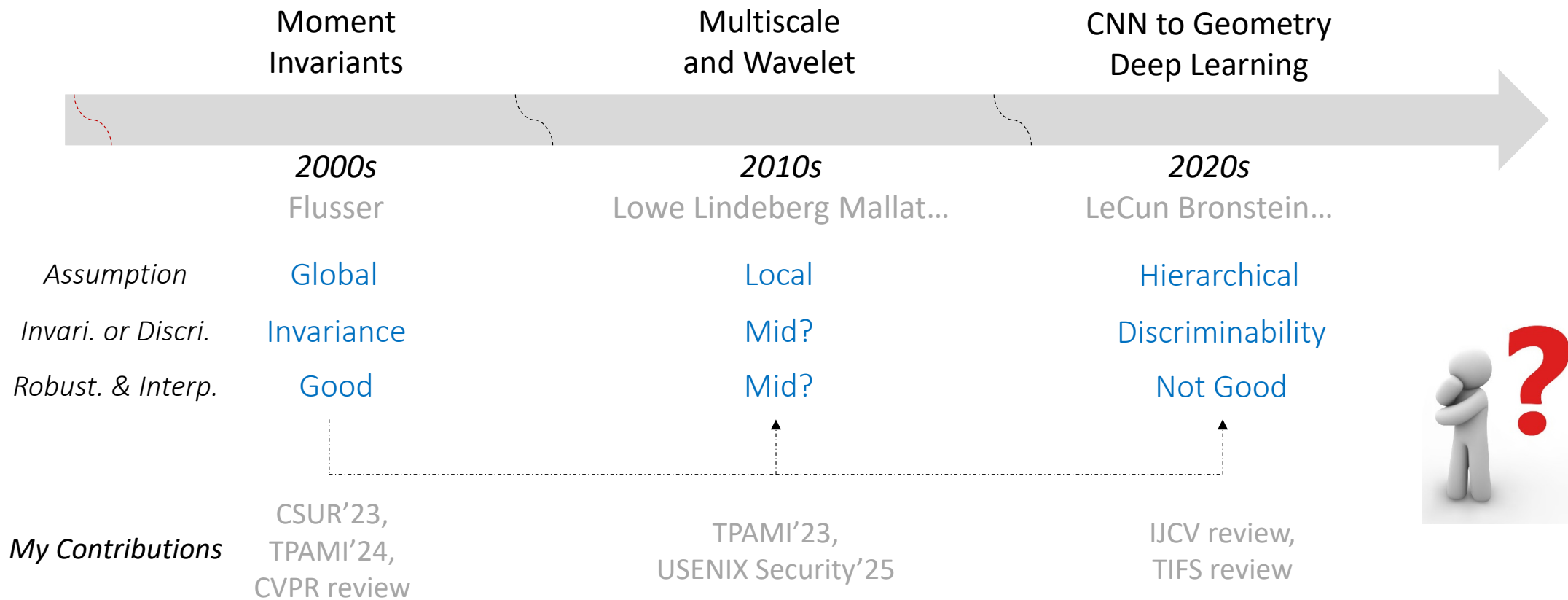
Intrinsic CNNs  
isometry/gauge choice



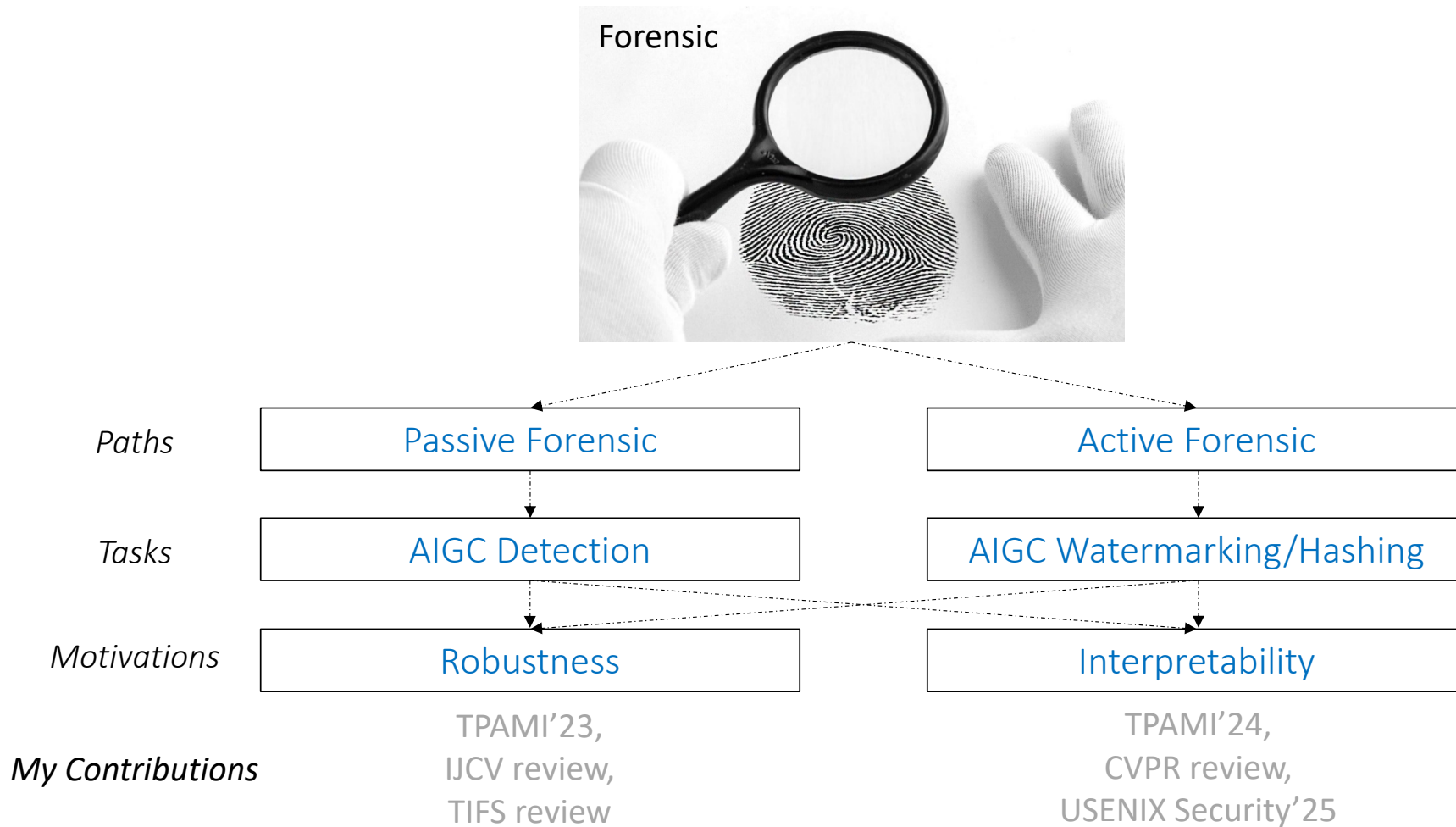
# A History of Invariance/Symmetry (in Representation)



# My Contributions to the Representations



# My Contributions to the Forensics





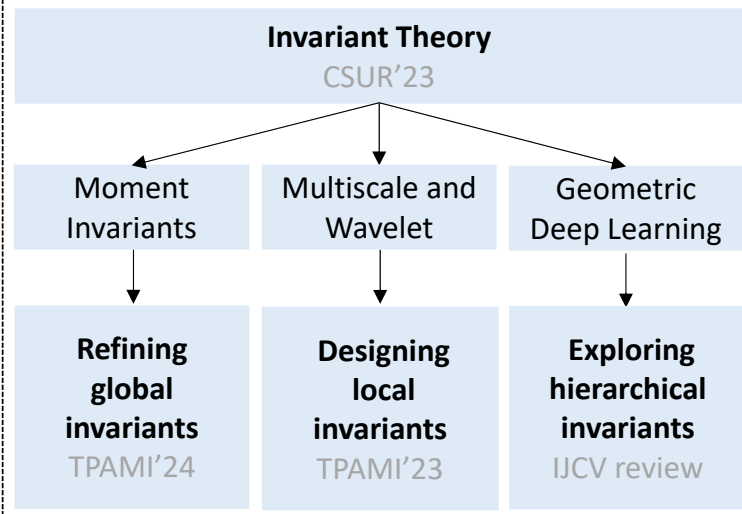
# My Research Overview

Trustworthy AI as **background**

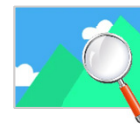
Symmetry priors in the natural world as **principles**

Expanding invariant representations at theoretical and practical levels

## Invariant Representation



## Forensic Tasks



### AIGC Detection

TIFS review



### AIGC Watermarking

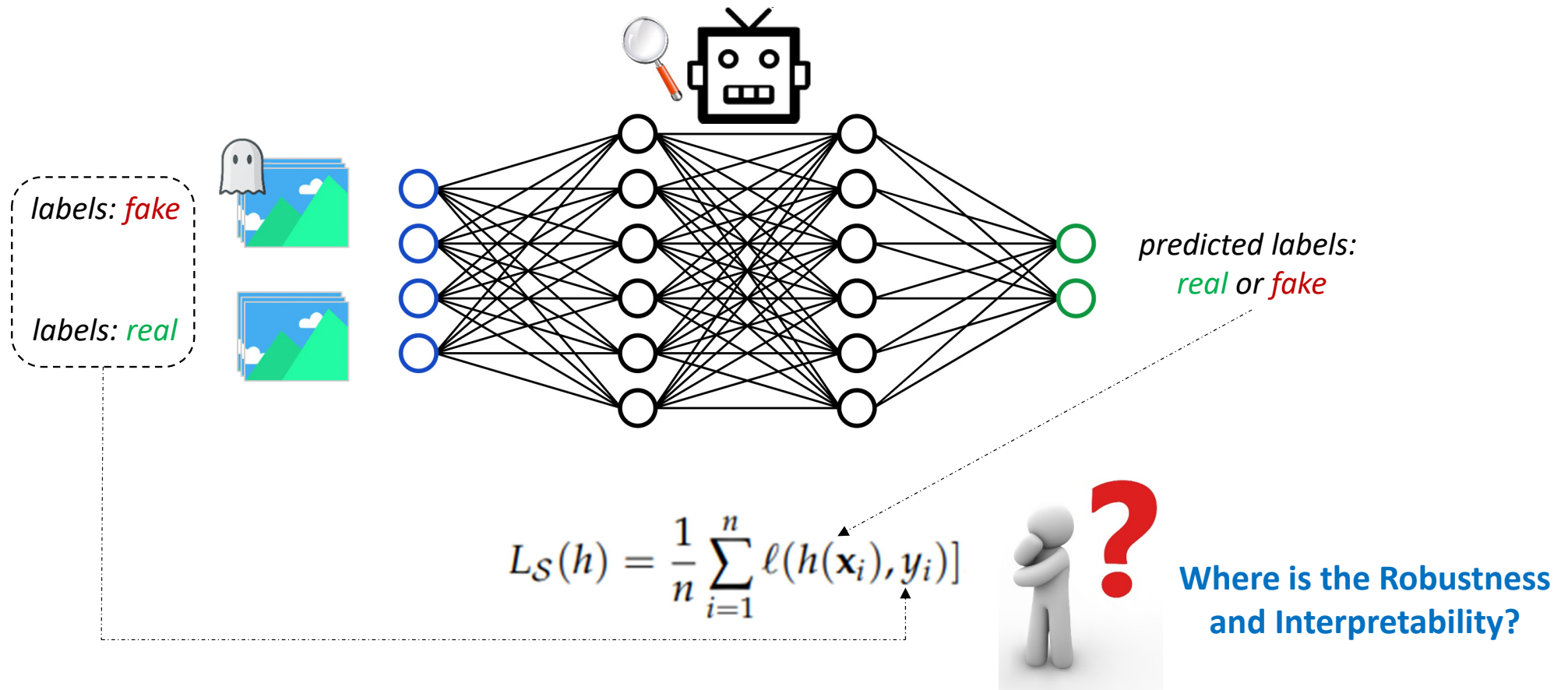
CVPR review



### AIGC Hashing

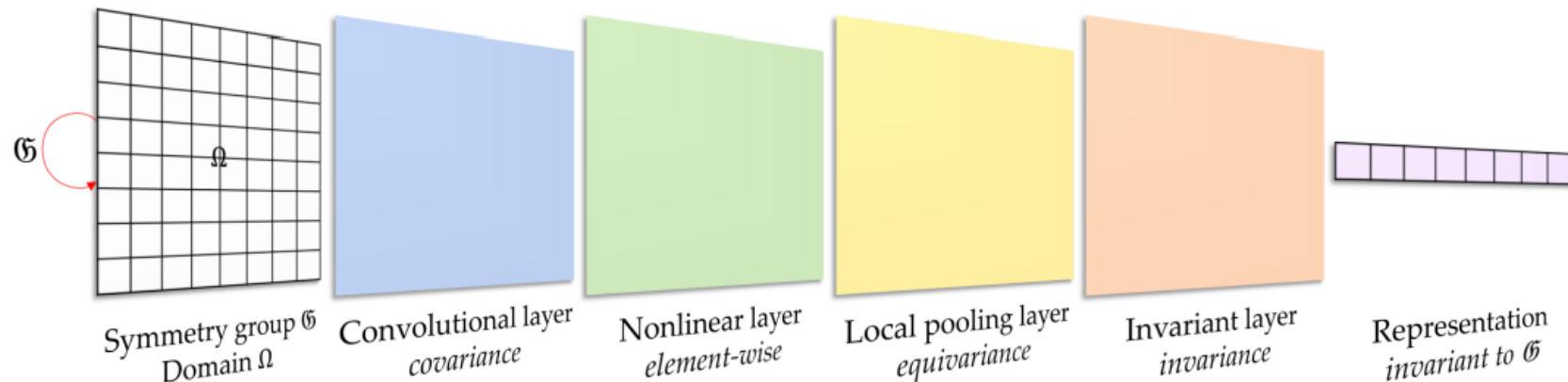
USENIX Security'25

# AIGC Detection



# AIGC Detection

- The main idea is to generalize the fundamental theory of global and local invariants to the hierarchical case.
- We propose hierarchical invariant representation, by rethinking the typical modules of CNN.



# AIGC Detection

- We formalize a blueprint for hierarchical invariance and define new modules with their compositions to fulfill the blueprint. The group theory shows the continuous and one-shot equivariance at each intermediate layer.

**Property 1. (Equivariance for translation, rotation, and flipping).** For a representation unit  $\mathbb{U} \triangleq \mathbb{P} \circ \mathbb{S} \circ \mathbb{C}$  with arbitrary parameters  $\lambda$  (for the convolutional layer), any composition of  $\mathbb{U}$  satisfy the joint equivariance for translation, rotation, and flipping (ignoring edge effects and resampling errors), i.e., the following identity holds:

$$\mathbb{U}_{[L]} \circ \dots \circ \mathbb{U}_{[2]} \circ \mathbb{U}_{[1]}(\mathbf{g}_1 M) \equiv \mathbf{g}_1 \mathbb{U}_{[L]} \circ \dots \circ \mathbb{U}_{[2]} \circ \mathbb{U}_{[1]}(M). \quad (16)$$

for any composition length  $L \geq 1$ , any  $\mathbf{g}_1 \in \mathfrak{G}_1$  and  $M \in X$ , where  $\mathfrak{G}_1$  is the translation/rotation/flipping symmetry group.

**Property 2. (Covariance for scaling).** For a representation unit  $\mathbb{U}$ , where the scale parameter of its convolutional layer is specified as  $w$  with a notation  $\mathbb{U}^w \triangleq \mathbb{P} \circ \mathbb{S} \circ \mathbb{C}^w$ , any composition of  $\mathbb{U}^w$  satisfy the covariance for scaling (ignoring edge effects and resampling errors), i.e., the following identity holds:

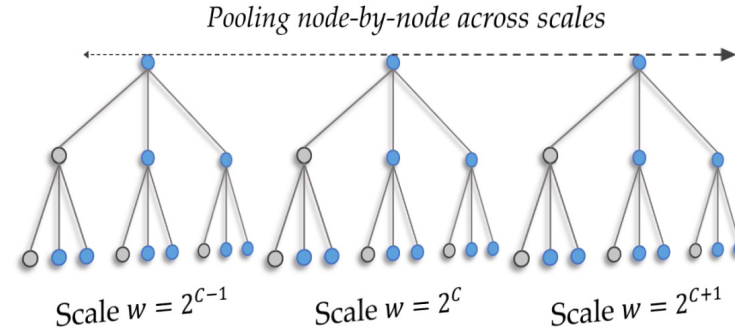
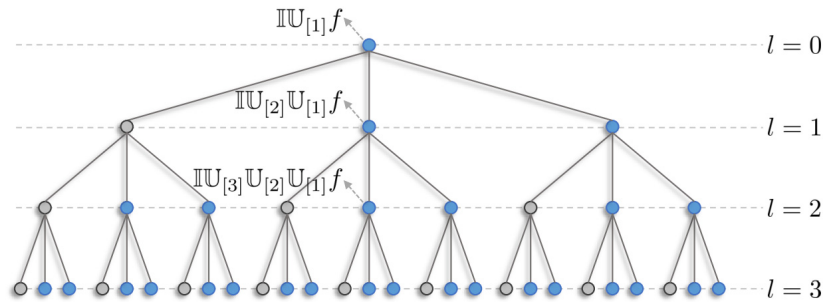
$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{U}_{[L]}^w \circ \dots \circ \mathbb{U}_{[2]}^w \circ \mathbb{U}_{[1]}^w(\mathbf{g}_2 M) \\ & \equiv \mathbf{g}_2' \mathbb{U}_{[L]}^w \circ \dots \circ \mathbb{U}_{[2]}^w \circ \mathbb{U}_{[1]}^w(M) \\ & = \mathbf{g}_2 \mathbb{U}_{[L]}^{ws} \circ \dots \circ \mathbb{U}_{[2]}^{ws} \circ \mathbb{U}_{[1]}^{ws}(M), \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

for any composition length  $L \geq 1$ , any  $\mathbf{g}_2 \in \mathfrak{G}_2$  and  $M \in X$ , where  $\mathbf{g}_2'$  is a predictable operation corresponding to  $\mathbf{g}_2$  with explicit form  $\mathbf{g}_2' \mathbb{U}^w \triangleq \mathbf{g}_2 \mathbb{U}^{ws}$ ,  $s$  is the scaling factor w.r.t.  $\mathbf{g}_2$ , and  $\mathfrak{G}_2$  is the scaling symmetry group.

**Property 3. (Hierarchical invariance).** For any composition of representation unit  $\mathbb{U}$ , it is practical to design a global invariant map  $\mathbb{I}$  w.r.t. the symmetry group of interest  $\mathfrak{G}_0 \subseteq \mathfrak{G}_1 \times \mathfrak{G}_2$ , due to the predictable geometric symmetries between the input image and deep feature map (at each intermediate layer) guaranteed by Properties 1 and 2. More specifically, with the Definition 4, we assume that there exists a  $\mathbb{I}$  such that  $\mathbb{I}(\mathbf{g}_0' M) = \mathbb{I}(M)$  for any  $\mathbf{g}_0 \in \mathfrak{G}_0$  and  $M \in X$ , i.e., invariance holds on one layer, where  $\mathbf{g}'$  is a predictable operation corresponding to  $\mathbf{g}$  and  $\mathbb{U}$ . Then we have following invariance:

$$\mathbb{I}(\mathbf{g}_0' M)_{[L]} \equiv \mathbb{I}M_{[L]}, \quad (20)$$

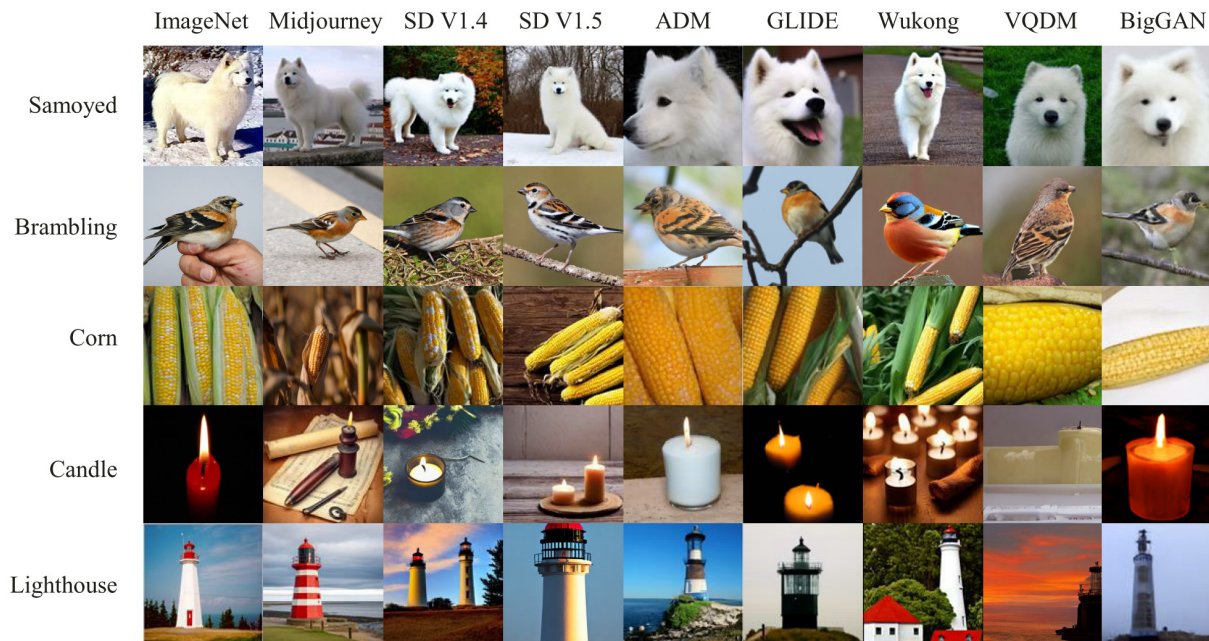
holds for any composition length  $L \geq 1$ .





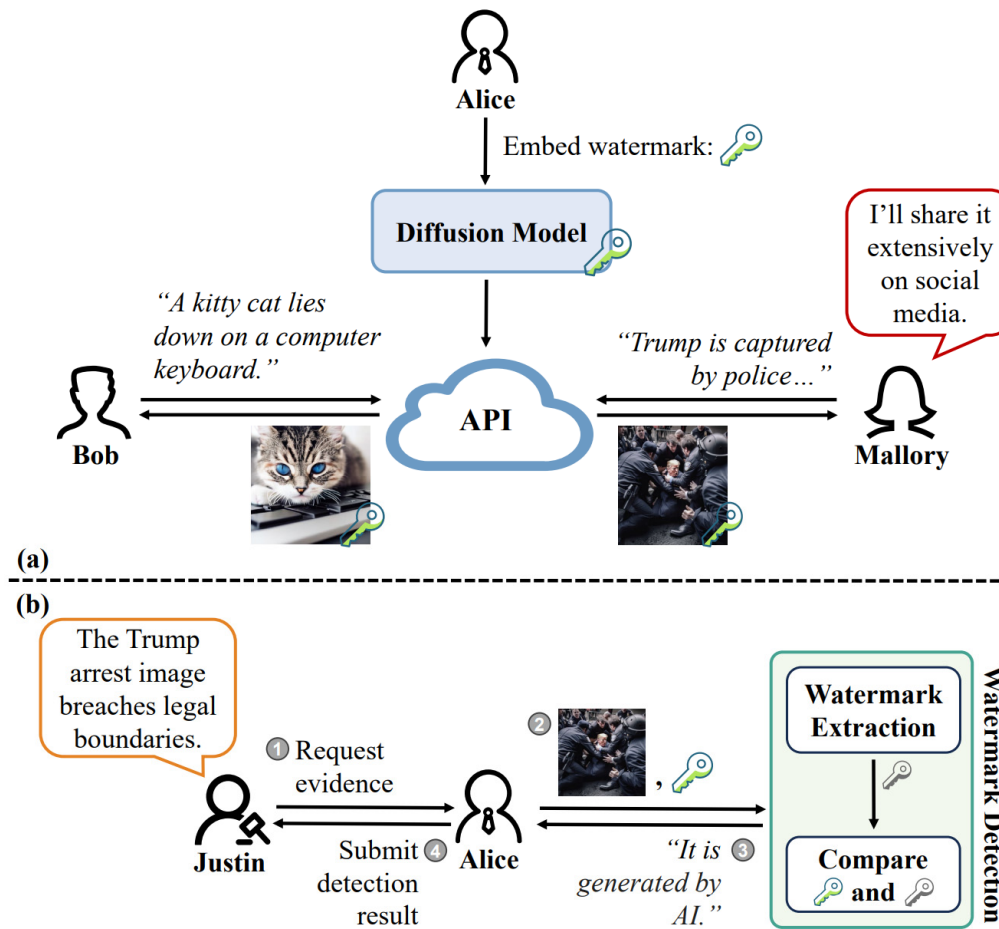
# AIGC Detection

- Such efforts led to a new theory of hierarchical invariants, with better trade-off between invariance and discriminability than traditional invariants and CNN in larger-scale vision tasks and AI-generated forgery forensics, also showing explainability and efficiency benefits.

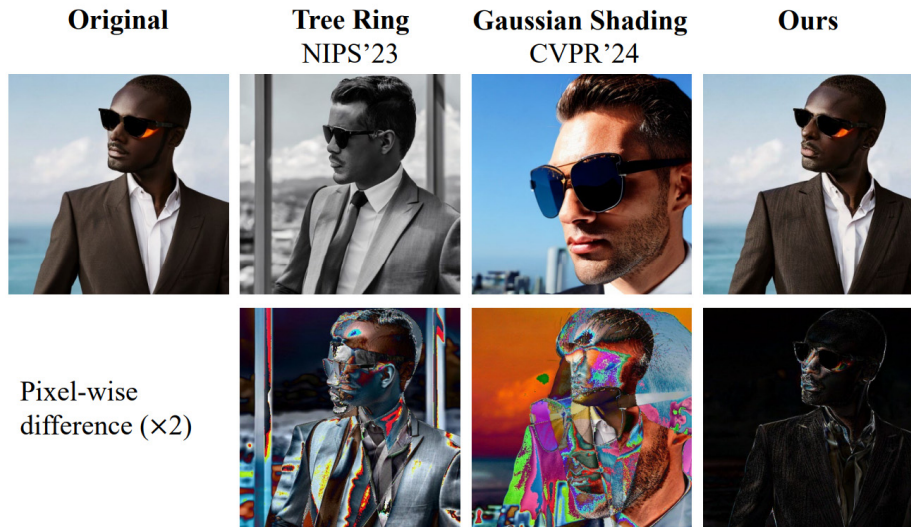


Method	Train./Test. = 5/5			Train./Test. = 1/9		
	Pre.	Rec.	F1	Pre.	Rec.	F1
<i>Classical:</i>						
Cosine NN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cosine SVM	94.95	94.57	94.76	94.36	91.06	92.68
Wavelet NN	48.70	94.17	64.20	48.69	94.13	64.18
Wavelet SVM	94.03	94.57	94.30	83.55	93.48	88.24
Kraw. NN	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kraw. SVM	75.24	74.77	75.00	71.56	68.57	70.03
<i>Learning:</i>						
SimpleNet	61.79	40.70	49.08	56.40	60.48	58.37
AlexNet	80.76	77.63	79.16	71.83	72.50	72.17
VGGNet	84.75	86.67	85.70	72.45	72.37	72.41
GoogLeNet	74.15	80.40	77.15	67.84	68.83	68.33
ResNet	85.10	83.03	84.06	76.88	73.67	75.24
DenseNet	86.83	85.23	86.02	76.84	75.37	76.10
InceptionNet	82.69	86.63	84.62	68.62	68.56	68.59
MobileNet	81.54	82.47	82.00	68.52	68.57	68.55
<i>Invariant:</i>						
Scatter. NN	83.68	83.73	83.71	79.37	79.70	79.53
Scatter. SVM	90.31	85.17	87.67	85.28	79.70	82.40
HIR NN	96.79	96.47	96.63	95.66	93.04	94.33
HIR SVM	96.92	96.37	96.64	95.21	94.26	94.73

# AIGC Watermarking



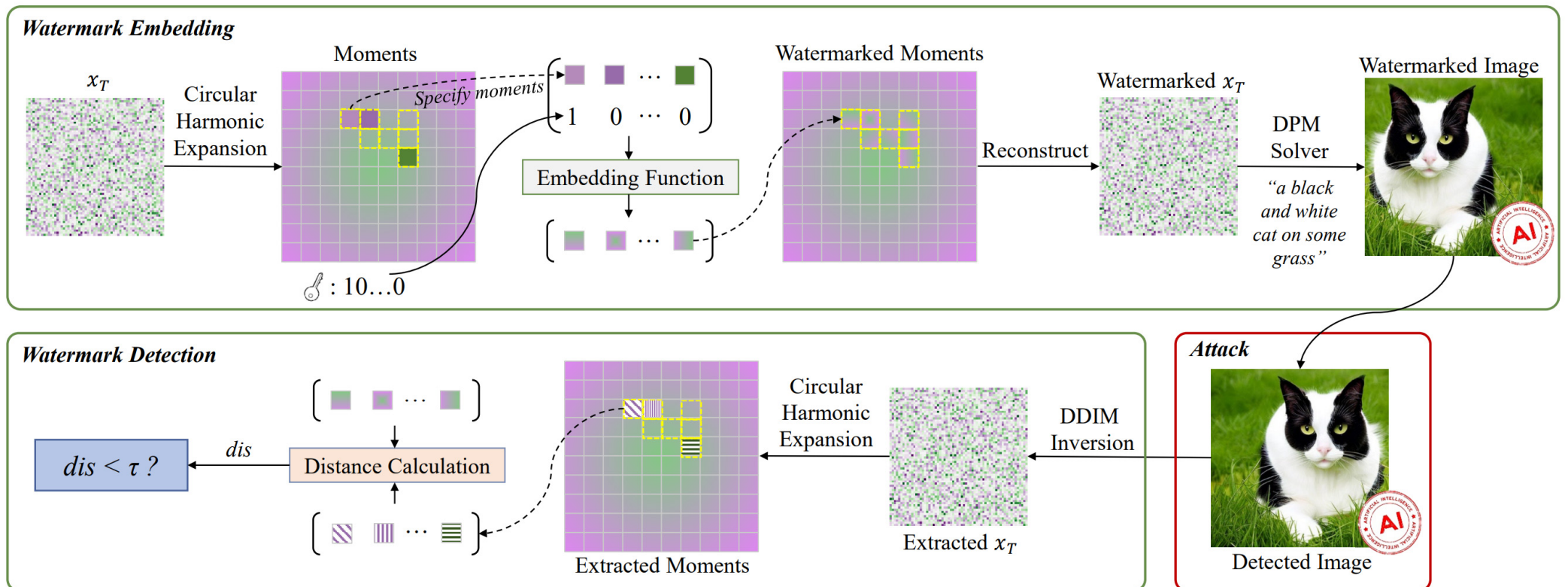
# AIGC Watermarking



Is there a balance  
between robustness and  
imperceptibility?

Method	Passive detection	Pixel-level watermarking			Content-level watermarking			
	AEROBLADE [32] CVPR'24	DwtDct [7] DW&S'07	RivaGAN [46] Arxiv'19	Stable Signature [12] ICCV'23	Tree Ring [42] NIPS'23	Gaussian Shading [44] CVPR'24	AquaLoRA [10] ICML'24	Ours
Detection confidence		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invariance and robustness					✓	✓	✓	✓
Imperceptibility	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓
Plug-and-play	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓

# AIGC Watermarking





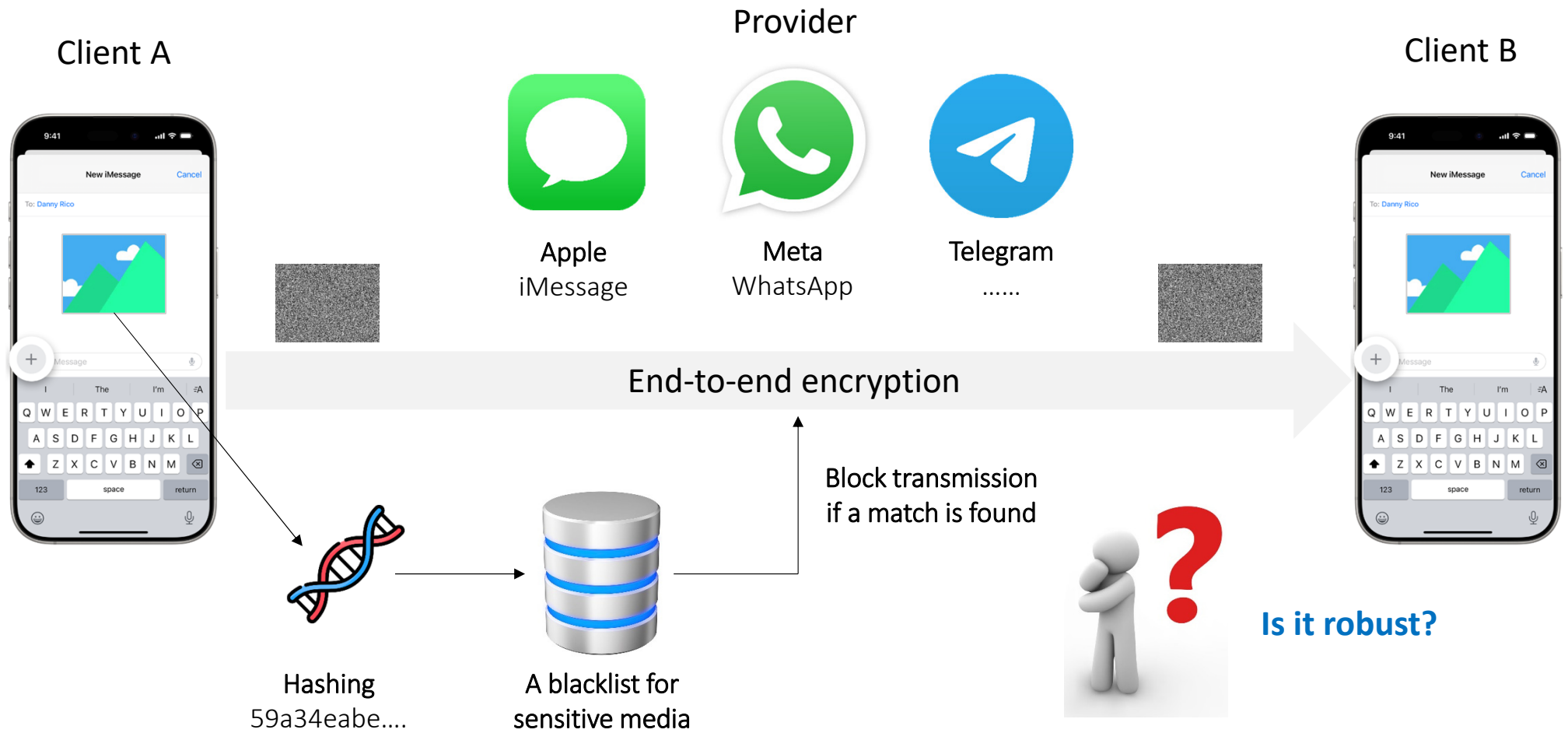
# AIGC Watermarking

Method	VAE based		DM based	Average
	Bmshj'18	Cheng'20	SDv2.1	
<i>Pixel-level</i>				<i>0.165</i>
DwtDct	0.005	0.002	0.003	0.003
DwtDctSvd	0.103	0.124	0.230	0.152
RivaGAN	0.014	0.017	0.123	0.051
Stable Signature	0.541	0.813	0.003	0.452
<i>Content-level</i>				<i>0.987</i>
Tree Ring	0.976	0.993	0.943	0.971
Gaussian Shading	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Ours	0.990	0.983	1.000	0.991

Method	Metrics		
	SSIM $\uparrow$	LPIPS $\downarrow$	WO-FID $\downarrow$
Tree Ring	0.47	0.50	43.81
Gaussian Shading	0.20	0.74	48.32
Ours ( $\alpha_2 = 0.02$ )	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>26.50</b>
Ours ( $\alpha_2 = 0.04$ )	0.62*	0.31*	35.02*



# AIGC Hashing



# AIGC Hashing

**Definition 1. (Multiresolution perturbation).** The addition of multiresolution perturbation is defined as follows:

$$X'_{(x,y) \in D_{uvw}} = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(X) + \delta), \quad (3)$$

with notations of

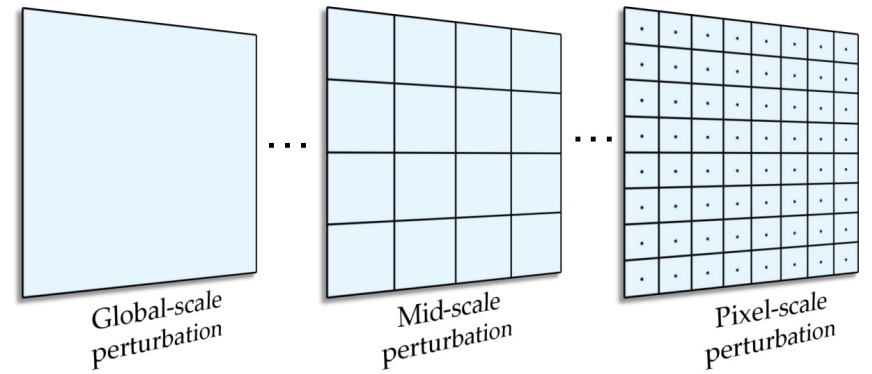
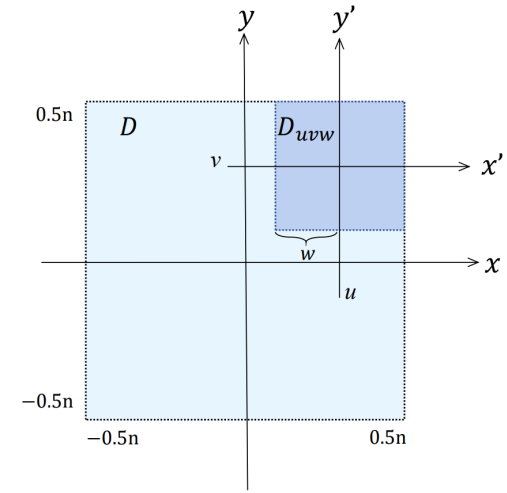
$$\mathcal{F}(X) = \langle X, V_{nm}^{uvw} \rangle = \iint_D (V_{nm}^{uvw}(x,y))^* X(x,y) dx dy, \quad (4)$$

and

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}(\mathcal{F}(X)) = \sum_{n,m} V_{nm}^{uvw}(x,y) \mathcal{F}(X), \quad (5)$$

where  $\mathcal{F}$  denotes the local orthogonal transformation [39], with image  $X(x,y)$  on domain  $(x,y) \in D$ . The local orthogonal basis function  $V_{nm}^{uvw}$  is defined on the domain  $D_{uvw}$  with the order parameters  $(n,m) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ , converting  $D$  to  $D_{uvw}$  by the translation offset  $(u,v)$  and the scaling factor  $w$ , as illustrated in Figure 2. Note that the local orthogonal basis function  $V_{nm}^{uvw}$  can be defined from any global orthogonal basis function  $V_{nm}$ , e.g., a family of harmonic functions, with following form:

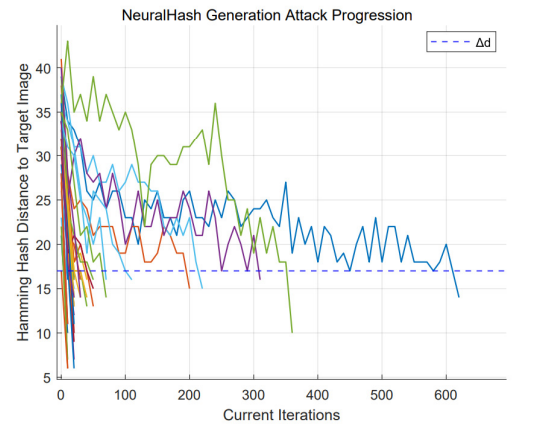
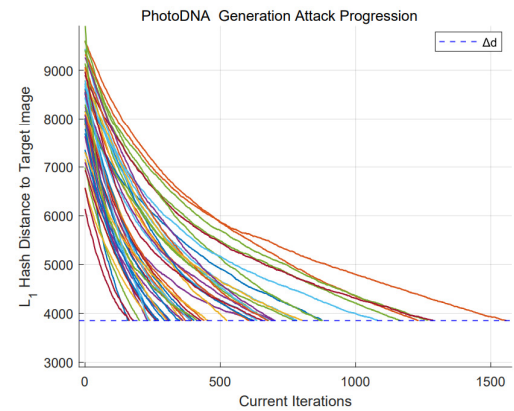
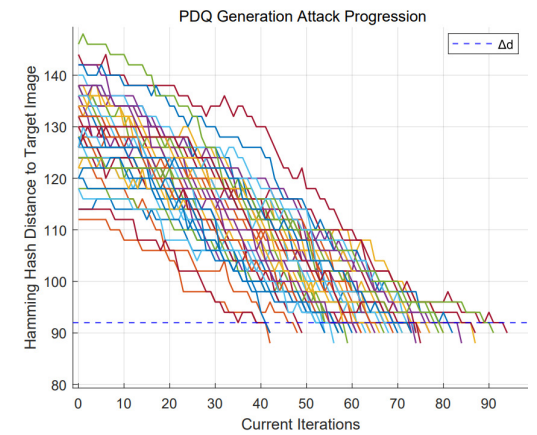
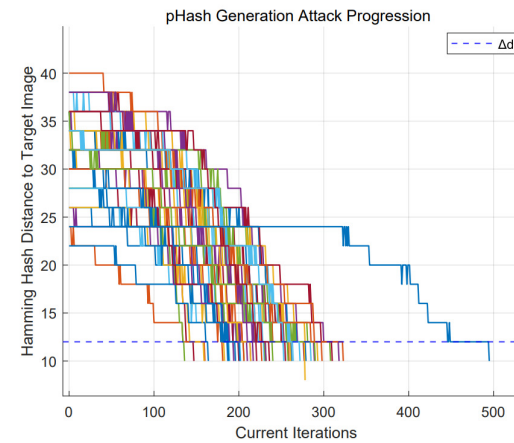
$$V_{nm}^{uvw}(x,y) = V_{nm}(x',y') = V_{nm}\left(\frac{x-u}{w}, \frac{y-v}{w}\right). \quad (6)$$





# AIGC Hashing

ATKSCOPES





# § Q & A

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