



# Greedy-DiM: Greedy Algorithms for Unreasonably Effective Face Morphs

# Motivation



Figure 1. Example of a morph created using Greedy-DiM. Samples are from the FRLL dataset [1].

- **Di**ffusion Morphs (**DiM**) are a recent SOTA algorithm for creating face morphs [2]
- Identity guided generation greatly increases the effectiveness of face morphing [3]
- Currently, there exists *no* algorithm for DiMs which perform identity *guided* generation!
- We propose Greedy-DiM, a family of algorithms to perform identity guided generation with diffusion models

Table 1. Comparison of existing DiM methods in the literature and our proposed algorithm.

	DiM [2]	Fast-DiM [4]	Morph-PIPE [5]	Ours
ODE solver	DDIM	DPM++ 2M	DDIM	DDIM
Forward ODE solver	DiffAE	DDIM	DiffAE	DiffA
Number of sampling steps	100	50	2100	20
Heuristic function	×	×	$\mathcal{L}_{ID}^{*}$	$\mathcal{L}_{ID}^{*}$
Search strategy	×	×	Brute-force search	Greec
Search space ( $\mathcal{S}$ )	×	×	21 Morphs	Image
$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{S})$	×	×	0	1

# Methodology



Figure 2. Overview of a single step of the Greedy-DiM<sup>\*</sup> algorithm. Proposed changes highlighted in green.

• The Variance Preserving (VP) diffusion process is governed by an Itô SDE

$$\mathbf{d}\mathbf{x}_t = f(t)\mathbf{x}_t \, \mathbf{d}t + g(t) \, \mathbf{d}\mathbf{w}_t$$

$$f(t) = \frac{\mathrm{d}\log\alpha_t}{\mathrm{d}t} \qquad g^2(t) = \frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma_t^2}{\mathrm{d}t} - 2\frac{\mathrm{d}\log\alpha_t}{\mathrm{d}t}\sigma_t^2$$

- with noise schedule  $\alpha_t^2 + \sigma_t^2 = 1$  such that  $\mathbf{x}_t = \alpha_t \mathbf{x}_0 + \sigma_t \epsilon$  where  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0})$
- Diffusion models train a U-Net to learn the added noise  $\epsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_t, t) \approx \epsilon$
- To draw samples from  $p_{data}(\mathbf{x}) = p_0(\mathbf{x}_0)$ , solve the Probability Flow ODE [6] 1 2(1)

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}_t}{\mathrm{d}t} = f(t)\mathbf{x}_t + \frac{g^2(t)}{2\sigma_t}\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_\theta(\mathbf{x}_t, t)$$

- Let  $\Phi$  denote a first-order numerical ODE solver to the PF ODE
- We use the identity loss  $\mathcal{L}_{ID}^*$  [3] defined as

$$\mathcal{L}_{ID} = d(v_{ab}, v_a) + d(v_{ab}, v_b) \qquad \mathcal{L}_{diff} = \left| d(v_{ab}, v_a) - d(v_{ab}, v_b) \right|$$
  
$$\mathcal{L}_{ID}^* = \mathcal{L}_{ID} + \mathcal{L}_{diff}$$

where  $v_a = F(\mathbf{x}_0^{(a)}), v_b = F(\mathbf{x}_0^{(b)}), v_{ab} = F(\mathbf{x}_0^{(ab)}), and F : \mathcal{X} \to V$  is an FR system whi embeds images into a vector space V which is equipped with a measure of distance,

• Greedily search for optimal  $\epsilon^*$  w.r.t  $\mathcal{H}$  at each time step  $t_n$  using  $\mathbf{x}_0$ -prediction (ab)

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_0 = \frac{\mathbf{x}_{t_n}^{(ab)} - \sigma_t \boldsymbol{\epsilon}}{\alpha_t}$$

- Greedy-DiM-S: Preforms a greedy search over 21 blend values of  $\epsilon$  at each step  $t_n$
- Greedy-DiM\*: Greedy gradient descent over  $\mathcal{X}$  to find  $\epsilon^*$

Zander W. Blasingame Chen Liu Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Clarkson University

{blasinzw, cliu}@clarkson.edu

# **Highlighted Results**



(a) identity a

(b) DiM-A

- Evaluated the proposed morphing attack on the recent SYN-MAD 2022 dataset [7]
- Compared against three landmark-based morphs: OpenCV, FaceMorpher, and Webmorph
- Compared against two identity GAN algorithms: MIPGAN-I and MIPGAN-II
- Compared against prior DiM algorithms: DiM-A, DiM-C, Fast-DiM, Fast-DiM-ode, and Morph-PIPE
- Used three FR systems representing the SOTA: ArcFace [8], AdaFace [9], and ElasticFace [10]
- The Mated Morph Presentation Match Rate (MMPMR) metric [11] is defined as

$$M(\delta) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{n=1}^{M} \left\{ \left[ \min_{n \in \{1, \dots, n\}} \right] \right\}$$

where  $\delta$  is the verification threshold,  $S_m^n$  is the similarity score of the n-th subject of morph m,  $N_m$  is the total number of contributing subjects to morph m, and M is the total number of morphed images • The Morphing Attack Potential (MAP) [12] metric is defined such that MAP[r, c] denotes the proportion of

morphed images that successfully register a false accept against at least r attempts against each contributing subject of at least c FR systems

Table 2. Vulnerability of different FR systems across different morphing attacks on the SYN-MAD 2022 dataset. FMR = 0.1%.

			MMPMR(†)	
Morphing Attack	NFE(↓)	AdaFace	ArcFace	ElasticFace
FaceMorpher [7]	_	89.78	87.73	89.57
Webmorph [7]	-	97.96	96.93	98.36
OpenCV [7]	-	94.48	92.43	94.27
MIPGAN-I [3]	-	72.19	77.51	66.46
MIPGAN-II [3]	-	70.55	72.19	65.24
DiM-A [2]	350	92.23	90.18	93.05
DiM-C [2]	350	89.57	83.23	86.3
Fast-DiM [4]	300	92.02	90.18	93.05
Fast-DiM-ode [4]	150	91.82	88.75	91.21
Morph-PIPE [5]	2350	95.91	92.84	95.5
Greedy-DiM-S	350	95.71	93.87	95.3
Greedy-DiM*	270	100	100	100

Table 3.  $MAP(\uparrow)$  metric for all three FR systems on the SYN-MAD 2022 dataset. FMR = 0.1%.

			Number of FR Systems	
Morphing Attack	NFE(↓)	1	2	3
FaceMorpher [7]	_	92.23	89.57	85.28
Webmorph [7]	-	98.77	98.36	96.11
OpenCV [7]	-	97.55	93.87	89.78
MIPGAN-I [3]	-	85.07	72.39	58.69
MIPGAN-II [3]	-	80.37	69.73	57.87
DiM-A [2]	350	96.93	92.43	86.09
DiM-C [2]	350	92.84	87.53	78.73
Fast-DiM [4]	300	97.14	92.43	85.69
Fast-DiM-ode [4]	150	95.91	91.21	84.66
Morph-PIPE [5]	2350	98.16	95.71	90.39
Greedy-DiM-S	350	97.34	95.71	91.82
Greedy-DiM*	270	100	100	100

(Greedy-DiM)

dy optimization e space  $(\mathcal{X})$ 

	(1)
	(2)
<b>I</b> ) [6]	

(3)





(e) Greedy-DiM\*

(f) identity b

Figure 3. Comparison of DiM morphs on the FRLL dataset

 $\left| n_{\mathcal{N} \to 1} S_m^n \right| > \delta \left\}$ 

(7)



Figure 4. Illustration of the search space in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of different DiM algorithms at a single step. Purple denotes Morph-PIPE/Greedy-DiM-S, red denotes Greedy-DiM-S continuous, and green denotes Greedy-DiM\*.





Figure 5. Morphed images generated via Greedy-DiM\*.

- morphing attacks
- Adds little overhead compared to the original DiM algorithms

1]	L. DeBruine and B. Jones, "Face Research
2]	Z. W. Blasingame and C. Liu, "Leveraging <i>Identity Science</i> , vol. 6, no. 1, pp. 118–13
3]	H. Zhang, S. Venkatesh, R. Ramachandra identity prior driven gan," <i>IEEE Transaction</i>
4]	Z. W. Blasingame and C. Liu, "Fast-dim: 1
5]	H. Zhang, R. Ramachandra, K. Raja, and E model," in Norwegian Information Security
6]	Y. Song, J. Sohl-Dickstein, D. P. Kingma, A equations," in International Conference on
7]	M. Huber, F. Boutros, A. T. Luu, K. Raja, F S. Serra, E. Cermeño, M. Ivanovska, B. Ba based on privacy-aware synthetic trainin
8]	J. Deng, J. Guo, N. Xue, and S. Zafeiriou, Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, p
9]	M. Kim, A. K. Jain, and X. Liu, "Adaface: C and Pattern Recognition, 2022.
10]	F. Boutros, N. Damer, F. Kirchbuchner, ar Conference on Computer Vision and Patter
11]	U. Scherhag, A. Nautsch, C. Rathgeb, M. R. Ramachandra, and C. Busch, "Biometric International Conference of the Biometrics

[12] M. Ferrara, A. Franco, D. Maltoni, and C. Busch, "Morphing attack potential," in 2022 International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics (IWBF), pp. 1–6, 2022.





## **Theoretical Results**

**Theorem 1.** Given a sequence of monotonically descending time steps,  $\{t_n\}_{n=1}^N$ , from T to 0, the DDIM solver to the Probability Flow ODE, and a heuristic function  $\mathcal{H}$ , then the locally optimal solution admitted by Greedy-DiM<sup>\*</sup> at time  $t_n$  is globally optimal.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a probability distribution on a compact subset  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  with full support on  $\mathcal{X}$  which models the distribution of the optimal  $\mathbf{x}_0^*$  and is absolutely continuous w.r.t. the n-dimensional Lebesgue measure  $\lambda^n$  on  $\mathcal{X}$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}_P, \mathcal{S}_S, \mathcal{S}^*$  denote the search spaces of the Morph-PIPE, Greedy-DiM-S, and Greedy-DiM\* algorithms. Then the following statements are true.

1.  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{S}_P) = \mathbb{P}(\mathcal{S}_S) = 0.$ 2.  $\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{S}^*) = 1.$ 

### Additional Morphed Images



# Conclusion

 SOTA morphing attack which outperforms all previous morphing attacks • First representation-based morphing attack to *consistently* outperform landmark-based

Developed a novel strategy to incorporate identity guidance for diffusion models

• Much less overhead than Morph-PIPE with superior performance

• Greedy guided generation can be applied to other guided diffusion problems

### References

h Lab London Set," 5 2017

g diffusion for strong and high quality face morphing attacks," IEEE Transactions on Biometrics, Behavior, and 31, 2024.

, K. Raja, N. Damer, and C. Busch, "Mipgan—generating strong and high quality morphing attacks using ons on Biometrics, Behavior, and Identity Science, vol. 3, no. 3, pp. 365–383, 2021. Towards fast diffusion morphs," IEEE Security & Privacy, pp. 2–13, 2024

B. Christoph, "Morph-pipe: Plugging in identity prior to enhance face morphing attack based on diffusion Conference (NISK), 2023.

A. Kumar, S. Ermon, and B. Poole, "Score-based generative modeling through stochastic differential Learning Representations, 2021.

R. Ramachandra, N. Damer, P. C. Neto, T. Gonçalves, A. F. Sequeira, J. S. Cardoso, J. Tremoço, M. Lourenço, Batagelj, A. Kronovšek, P. Peer, and V. Štruc, "Syn-mad 2022: Competition on face morphing attack detection ing data," in 2022 IEEE International Joint Conference on Biometrics (IJCB), pp. 1–10, 2022.

, "Arcface: Additive angular margin loss for deep face recognition," in Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on pp. 4690-4699, 2019.

Quality adaptive margin for face recognition," in Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF Conference on Computer Vision

and A. Kuijper, "Elasticface: Elastic margin loss for deep face recognition," in Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF rn Recognition (CVPR) Workshops, pp. 1578–1587, June 2022.

Gomez-Barrero, R. N. J. Veldhuis, L. Spreeuwers, M. Schils, D. Maltoni, P. Grother, S. Marcel, R. Breithaupt, ric systems under morphing attacks: Assessment of morphing techniques and vulnerability reporting," in 2017

Special Interest Group (BIOSIG), pp. 1–7, 2017.