



BSI Standards Publication

Information technology — Biometric presentation attack detection

Part 3: Testing and reporting

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of ISO/IEC 30107-3:2023. It supersedes BS ISO/IEC 30107-3:2017, which is withdrawn.

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A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

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Contents

Page

Foreword	v
Introduction	vi
1 Scope	1
2 Normative references	1
3 Terms and definitions	2
3.1 Attack elements	2
3.2 Metrics	3
3.3 Test roles	5
4 Abbreviated terms	6
5 Conformance	7
6 Presentation attack detection (PAD) overview	7
7 Levels of evaluation of PAD mechanisms	8
7.1 Overview	8
7.2 General principles of evaluation of PAD mechanisms	9
7.3 PAD subsystem evaluation	9
7.4 Data capture subsystem evaluation	10
7.5 Full system evaluation	10
8 Artefact properties	11
8.1 Properties of PAIs in biometric impostor attacks	11
8.2 Properties of PAIs in biometric concealer attacks	12
8.3 Properties of synthesized biometric samples with abnormal characteristics	12
9 Considerations in non-conformant capture attempts of biometric characteristics	13
9.1 Methods of presentation	13
9.2 Methods of assessment	13
10 Artefact creation and usage in evaluations of PAD mechanisms	13
10.1 General	13
10.2 Artefact creation and preparation	13
10.3 Artefact usage	14
10.4 Iterative testing to identify effective artefacts	15
11 Process-dependent evaluation factors	15
11.1 Overview	15
11.2 Evaluating the enrolment process	15
11.3 Evaluating the verification process	16
11.4 Evaluating the identification process	16
11.5 Evaluating offline PAD mechanisms	17
12 Evaluation using Common Criteria framework	17
12.1 General	17
12.2 Common Criteria and biometrics	18
12.2.1 Overview	18
12.2.2 General evaluation aspects	19
12.2.3 Error rates in testing	19
12.2.4 PAD evaluation	19
12.2.5 Vulnerability assessment	20
13 Metrics for the evaluation of biometric systems with PAD mechanisms	21
13.1 General	21
13.2 Metrics for PAD subsystem evaluation	22
13.2.1 General	22
13.2.2 Classification metrics	22
13.2.3 Non-response metrics	25

This is a preview of BS ISO/IEC 30107-3:2023. [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

13.2.4	Efficiency metrics	25
13.2.5	Summary	25
13.3	Metrics for data capture subsystem evaluation	25
13.3.1	General	25
13.3.2	Acquisition metrics	26
13.3.3	Non-response metrics	26
13.3.4	Efficiency metrics	26
13.3.5	Summary	26
13.4	Metrics for full system evaluation	27
13.4.1	General	27
13.4.2	Accuracy metrics	27
13.4.3	Efficiency metrics	27
13.4.4	Generalized full-system evaluation performance	28
13.4.5	Summary	30
Annex A	(informative) Classification of attack types	32
Annex B	(informative) Examples of artefact species used in a PAD subsystem evaluation for fingerprint capture devices	36
Annex C	(informative) Roles in PAD testing	37
Bibliography		38

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) and IEC (the International Electrotechnical Commission) form the specialized system for worldwide standardization. National bodies that are members of ISO or IEC participate in the development of International Standards through technical committees established by the respective organization to deal with particular fields of technical activity. ISO and IEC technical committees collaborate in fields of mutual interest. Other international organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO and IEC, also take part in the work.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives or www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO and IEC shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents) or the IEC list of patent declarations received (see <https://patents.iec.ch>).

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html. In the IEC, see www.iec.ch/understanding-standards.

This document was prepared by Joint Technical Committee ISO/IEC JTC 1, *Information technology*, Subcommittee SC 37, *Biometrics*.

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO/IEC 30107-3:2017), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- the relative impostor attack presentation accept rate has been added ([13.4.4](#));
- information on roles in presentation attack detection testing have been added ([Annex C](#));
- general technical clarifications and improvements have been made.

A list of all parts in the ISO/IEC 30107 series can be found on the ISO and IEC websites.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html and www.iec.ch/national-committees.

Introduction

The presentation of an artefact or of human characteristics to a biometric capture subsystem in a fashion intended to interfere with system policy is referred to as a presentation attack. The ISO/IEC 30107 series deals with techniques for the automated detection of presentation attacks. These techniques are called presentation attack detection (PAD) mechanisms.

As is the case for biometric recognition, PAD mechanisms are subject to false positive and false negative errors. False positive errors wrongly categorize bona fide presentations as attack presentations, potentially flagging or inconveniencing legitimate users. False negative errors wrongly categorize presentation attacks (also known as attack presentations) as bona fide presentations, potentially resulting in a security breach.

Therefore, the decision to use a specific implementation of PAD will depend on the requirements of the application and consideration of the trade-offs with respect to security, evidence strength and efficiency.

The purpose of this document is as follows:

- to define terms related to biometric PAD testing and reporting, and
- to specify principles and methods of performance assessment of biometric PAD, including metrics.

This document is directed at vendors or test laboratories seeking to conduct evaluations of PAD mechanisms.

Biometric performance testing terminology, practices and methodologies for statistical analysis have been standardized through ISO and Common Criteria. False accept rate (FAR), false reject rate (FRR) and failure to enrol rate (FTE) are widely used to characterize biometric system performance. Biometric performance testing terminology, practices and methodologies for statistical analysis are only partially applicable to the evaluation of PAD mechanisms due to significant fundamental differences between biometric performance testing concepts and PAD mechanism testing concepts. These differences can be categorized as follows.

a) Statistical significance

Biometric performance testing utilizes a statistically significant number of test subjects, representative of the targeted user group. Error rates are not expected to vary significantly when adding more test subjects or using a completely different group.

In PAD testing, many biometric modalities can be attacked by a large or indeterminate number of potential presentation attack instrument species (PAIS). In these cases, it is very difficult or even impossible to have a comprehensive model of all possible presentation attack instruments (PAIs). Hence, it could be impossible to find a representative set of PAIS for the evaluation. Therefore, measured error rates of one set of PAIs cannot be assumed to be applicable to a different set.

PAIS present a source of systematic variation in a test. Different PAIs can have significantly different error rates. Additionally, within any given PAIS, there is random variation across instances of the PAI series. The number of presentations required for a statistically significant test scales linearly with the number of PAIS of interest. Within each PAIS, the uncertainty associated with a PAD error rate estimate depends on the number of artefacts tested and the number of individuals.

EXAMPLE 1 In fingerprint biometrics, many potent artefact materials are known, but any material or material mixture that can present fingerprint features to a biometric capture device is a possible candidate. Since artefact properties such as age, thickness, moisture, temperature, mixture rates and manufacturing practices can have a significant influence on the output of the PAD mechanism, it is easy to define tens of thousands of PAIS using current materials. Hundreds of thousands of presentations would be needed for a proper statistical analysis, and even then, resulting error rates cannot be transferred to the next set of new materials.

PAI presentation can also be source of variation in a test. Variation in pressure, position or even PAI presenter characteristics can impact PAD performance.

b) Comparability of test results across systems

In biometric performance testing, application-specific error rates based on the same corpus of biometric samples can be used to compare different biometric systems or different configurations. Results can be used to unambiguously compare and assess system performance. By contrast, when using error rates to benchmark PAD mechanisms, interpreting results can be highly dependent on the intended application.

EXAMPLE 2 In a given testing scenario with 10 PAIS (presented 100 times), System₁ detects 90 % of attack presentations and System₂ detects 85 %. System₁ detects all presentations for 9 PAIS but fails to detect all presentations with the 10th PAIS. System₂ detects 85 % of all PAIS. Which is better? In a security analysis System₁ would be worse than System₂, because revealing the 10th PAIS would orient an attacker such that they could use this method to defeat the capture device all the time. However, if attackers could be prevented from using the 10th PAIS, System₁ would be better than System₂, because individual rates indicate that it is possible to overcome System₂ with all PAIS.

c) Cooperation

Many biometric performance tests address applications such as access control in which subjects are cooperative. Errors due to incorrect operation are an issue of a lack of knowledge, experience or guidance rather than intent. Significant uncooperative behaviour in a group is not part of the underlying “biometric model” and would render the determined error rates almost useless for biometric performance testing.

PAD tests include subjects whose behaviour is not cooperative. Attackers will try to find and exploit any weakness of the biometric system, circumventing or manipulating its intended operation. Presentation attack types, based on the experience and knowledge of the tester, can change the success rates for an attack dramatically. Hence it can be difficult to define testing procedures that measure error rates in a fashion representative of cooperative behaviour.

d) Automated testing

In biometric performance testing, it is often possible to test comparison algorithms using databases from devices or sensors of similar quality. Performance can be measured in a technology evaluation using previously collected corpora of samples as specified in ISO/IEC 19795-1.

In PAD testing, data from the biometric capture device (e.g. digitized fingerprint images) can in some cases be insufficient to conduct evaluations. Biometric systems with PAD mechanisms often contain additional sensors to detect specific properties of a biometric characteristic. Hence, a database previously collected for a specific biometric system or configuration is not necessarily suitable for another biometric system or configuration.

Even slight changes in the hardware or software could make earlier measurements useless. It is generally impractical to store multivariate synchronized PAD signals and replay them in automated testing. Therefore, automated testing is often not an option for testing and evaluating PAD mechanisms.

e) Quality and performance

In biometric performance testing, performance is usually linked directly to biometric data quality. Low-quality samples generally result in higher error rates while a test with only high-quality samples will generally result in lower error rates. Quality metrics are therefore often used to improve performance (dependent on the application).

In PAD testing, even though low biometric quality can cause an artefact to be unsuccessful, there is no reason to assume a certain quality level from artefacts in general. Samples from artefacts can exhibit better quality than samples from human biometric characteristics. Without a model of attacker skill, it seems valid (at least in a security evaluation) to assume a “worst case” scenario where the attacker always uses the best possible quality. That way, one can at least determine a guaranteed minimal detection rate for the specific test set while reducing the number of necessary tests at the same time.

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It is then a matter of rating the attack potential of successful artefacts (effort and expertise for the needed quality) in order to assess the security level, as is the practice in Common Criteria evaluations.

Based on the differences in a) through e), the following general comments regarding error rates and metrics related to PAD mechanisms can be derived.

- In an evaluation, PAIS are analysed/rated separately.
- Attack presentation classification error rates other than 0 % for a PAIS only prove that the PAI can be successful. A different tester can potentially achieve a higher or lower attack presentation classification error rate. Further, training to identify the relevant material and presentation parameters could increase the attack presentation classification error rate for this PAIS. The experience and knowledge of the tester, as well as the availability of the necessary resources, are significant factors in PAD testing and are taken into account when conducting comparisons or performance analysis.

Error rates for PAD mechanisms are determined by the specific context of the given PAD mechanism, the set of PAIS, the application, the test approach, and the tester. Error rates for PAD mechanisms are not necessarily comparable across similar tests, and error rates for PAD mechanisms are not necessarily reproducible by different test laboratories.

Information technology — Biometric presentation attack detection —

Part 3: Testing and reporting

1 Scope

This document establishes:

- principles and methods for the performance assessment of presentation attack detection (PAD) mechanisms;
- reporting of testing results from evaluations of PAD mechanisms; and
- a classification of known attack types ([Annex A](#)).

Outside the scope are:

- standardization of specific PAD mechanisms;
- detailed information about countermeasures (i.e. anti-spoofing techniques), algorithms or sensors; and
- overall system-level security or vulnerability assessment.

The attacks considered in this document take place at the biometric capture device during presentation. Any other attacks are considered outside the scope of this document.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO/IEC 2382-37, *Information technology — Vocabulary — Part 37: Biometrics*

ISO/IEC 15408-1, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection — Evaluation criteria for IT security — Part 1: Introduction and general model*

ISO/IEC 15408-2, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection — Evaluation criteria for IT security — Part 2: Security functional components*

ISO/IEC 15408-3, *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection — Evaluation criteria for IT security — Part 3: Security assurance components*

ISO/IEC 19795-1, *Information technology — Biometric performance testing and reporting — Part 1: Principles and framework*

ISO/IEC 30107-1, *Information technology — Biometric presentation attack detection — Part 1: Framework*