

**University “St. Kliment Ohridski”  
Bitola  
Faculty of Information and  
Communication Technology - Bitola  
Republic of North Macedonia**

**PROCEEDINGS  
15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on  
APPLIED INTERNET AND INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGIES  
AIIT 2025**



**Bitola, November 7, 2025**



**University “St. Kliment Ohridski” Bitola**  
**Faculty of Information and Communication Technology - Bitola**  
**Republic of North Macedonia**

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**AIIT 2025**



**November 7, 2025 Bitola**

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## **Introduction**

As organizing partners of 15th International Conference on Applied Internet and Information Technologies AIIT 2025, we warmly welcome all participants, researchers, and colleagues joining us from various countries and universities, united by our shared commitment to advancing knowledge in the fields of computer science, applied Internet, and information technologies.

The AIIT conference has become a long-standing tradition of excellence and collaboration, co-organized by the Faculty of Information and Communication Technologies – Bitola, University “St. Kliment Ohridski,” and the Technical Faculty “Mihajlo Pupin” – Zrenjanin, University of Novi Sad, Serbia. Over the past fifteen years, this partnership has fostered not only strong academic cooperation but also genuine friendship among our institutions and scholars.

This year’s conference proudly continues that tradition, bringing together innovative research, diverse perspectives, and new insights into technologies that are shaping our digital future. The Scientific Program Committee once again faced the demanding task of selecting the highest-quality papers from more than sixty submissions spanning a wide range of topics—including Artificial Intelligence, Immersive Technologies, Mathematical Simulations, Data Science and Big Data Analytics, Knowledge and IT Management, Cybersecurity, Software Engineering, Data Mining, Digital Transformation, Behavioral Economics and Business, Social Engineering, Digital Humanities, Augmented Humanity, and Hybrid Intelligence. This ensures that the program reflects both scientific rigor and creative originality.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all reviewers for their dedicated work, as well as to the members of the Organizing Committee for their professionalism, commitment, and enthusiasm in preparing this event.

We are confident that these proceedings will provide an enriching and thought-provoking reading experience.

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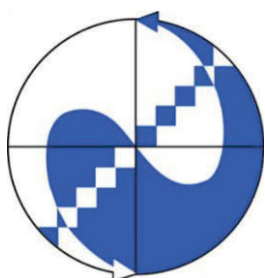


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Prof. Dr. Blagoj Ristevski is a Full Professor at the Faculty of Information and Communication Technologies (FICT) at the University "St. Kliment Ohridski" - Bitola, where he currently serves as Dean. He holds a PhD in Technical Sciences from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies, Institute of Computer Science and Informatics, at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. His research interests span Databases, Data Science, Data Mining, Big Data Analytics, Bioinformatics, Computer Graphics, and Cybersecurity. Prof. Ristevski has supervised numerous BSc, MSc, and PhD theses and has led several international research projects. He has served on the management committees of multiple COST actions, reviewed for numerous high-impact journals, and evaluated project proposals for the Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe programs. Prof. Ristevski is also a senior member of IEEE.



**Kostandina Veljanovska, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Faculty of Information and Communication Technologies, Bitola, Republic of N. Macedonia (co – chair)**

**Kostandina Veljanovska, Ph.D.** completed her education at the University "Sts. Kiril i Metodi", Skopje (BSc in Computer Science), at the University of Toronto, Toronto (MSc in Applied Engineering) and got her MSc and also her PhD in Technical Sciences at the University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bitola, R. Macedonia. She has completed postdoc in Artificial Intelligence at the Laboratory of Informatics, Robotics and Microelectronics at the University of Montpellier, Montpellier, France. She worked as a Research assistant at the Faculty of Applied Science, University of Toronto, Canada. She also, worked at research team for Constraints, Learning and Agents at LIRMM, University of Montpellier. Currently, she works as a Full Professor in Artificial Intelligence and Systems, Computer Science and Computer Engineering at the Faculty of Information and Communication Technologies, University "St. Kliment Ohridski" - Bitola and serves as a Vice-dean for Science and Collaboration. Her research work is focused on artificial intelligence, machine learning techniques, intelligent systems and human - computer interaction. She participated in several international and domestic scientific projects. She has published numerous scientific papers in the area of interest, as well as several monographic items. She is a reviewing referee for well-known publishing house, journals with significant impact factor in science and also, member of editorial board of several international conferences.



**Željko Stojanov, University of Novi Sad, Technical faculty "Mihajlo Pupin", Zrenjanin, Serbia (co – chair)**

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## CONTENT

<b><i>Plenary Papers</i></b>	
<b>MOR over frequency range by interpolation</b> Jovan Stefanovski	<b>16</b>
<b>Current State and Future of Intelligent Agents and their Applications</b> Eleonora Brtko	<b>26</b>
<b>Detection and Response in Cybersecurity</b> Marjan Sterjev	<b>37</b>
<b><i>Regular papers</i></b>	
<b>Analysis of the popularity of antivirus solutions – Microsoft Defender, Kaspersky, and Bitdefender</b> Dejan Jocin, Biljana Radulović and Tamara Milić	<b>46</b>
<b>Application of Security in Electronic Business on the Example of Application Development using Multi-factor Authentication in Online Learning Platforms</b> Tamara Milic, Vesna Makitan	<b>53</b>
<b>Bluetooth LE Spam with ESP32 running Marauder and Bruce</b> Blagoj Nenovski	<b>61</b>
<b>Mathematical Foundations of Multi-Criteria Decision-Making and Their Application in Modern Telecommunications and Information Security</b> Jovana Knezevic, Dalibor Dobrilovic, Jelena Stojanov	<b>69</b>
<b>Security Monitoring of a PHP MVC Single Page Web Portal with Access Categorization: Preschool Institution Zrenjanin Case Study</b> Ljubica Kazi, Tatjana Lojović and Željko Cvijanović	<b>78</b>
<b>Wireless Communication Security – Review on ZigBee and Bluetooth protocol</b> Vuk Amizic, Dalibor Dobrilovic	<b>86</b>
<b>Integrity of digital evidences in the investigation process</b> Rade Dragović, Dragan Dragović and Dalibor Dobrilović	<b>94</b>
<b>Exploring the Impact of VR and AR Integration in Learning Management Systems: A Study on Enhancing Immersive Learning Experiences</b> Buen Bajrami, Igor Nedelkovski, Andrijana Bocevska and Kostandina Veljanovska	<b>102</b>
<b>Comparative Analysis of Text Mining Techniques and Tools</b> Marija Apostoloska-Kondoska, Blagoj Ristevski, Nikola Rendevski, Snezhana Savoska	<b>109</b>

<b>Scalable ETL Processes with Change Data Capture (CDC) and Monitoring Using Apache Superset</b>	<b>118</b>
Aneta Trajkovska, Violeta Manevska and Kostandina Veljanovska	
<b>KPI metrics in the Software Industry: Literature Review and Analysis</b>	<b>126</b>
Igor Vecstejn, Zeljko Stojanov, Tamara Milic and Maja Gaborov	
<b>Recipe Radar: A Voice-Driven Hybrid Recommender System for Recipes Using NLP, Text-to-SQL, and Cloud-Native Infrastructure</b>	<b>134</b>
Aleksandra Kolevska, Natasha Blazheska-Tabakovska	
<b>Knowledge-based Decision Support System for Personalised Training</b>	<b>142</b>
Marija Kolevska, Natasha Blazheska-Tabakovska	
<b>AI-Based Prediction of Elastic Properties in Crystals with Class Balancing</b>	<b>152</b>
Nora Pireci Sejdiu, Nikola Rendevski and Blagoj Ristevski	
<b>The Role of Digital Humanism in Shaping AI-Driven Augmented Humanity</b>	<b>160</b>
Blagoj Ristevski, Nikola Rendevski and Dragan Grueski	
<b>ECG Classification Utilizing a Hybrid Transformer-BiLSTM Network</b>	<b>166</b>
Luka Glišić, Ivana Berković	
<b>Integrating XGBoost and Neural Networks for Accurate Student Performance Prediction in Higher Education</b>	<b>172</b>
Buen Bajrami, Blagoj Ristevski, Kostandina Veljanovska	
<b>Intelligent UAV Surveillance GIS-Based Path Planning and Post-Flight Object Detection Using YOLOv11</b>	<b>179</b>
Dalibor Šeljmeši, Velibor Ilić, Višnja Ognjenović, Vladimir Brtko and Dalibor Dobrilović	
<b>Optimizing Real-Time Data Processing with Kafka and Databricks Integration for Scalable Machine Learning Solutions</b>	<b>187</b>
Aneta Trajkovska, Blagoj Ristevski, Kostandina Veljanovska, Trajche Trajkov, Nikola Rendevski	
<b>Intelligent Agents Architecture for Evacuation Route Planning in QGIS Environment</b>	<b>195</b>
Srđan Popov, Milena Zeljković, Tanja Vranić, Nebojša Ralević and Željko Zeljković	
<b>Artificial Intelligence for Assisting People with Sensory and Cognitive Disabilities</b>	<b>203</b>
Kostandina Veljanovska, Simona Gulevska and Blagoj Ristevski	
<b>Comparative Study of Depth-First Search Algorithms: DFS, DLS, and IDDFS in Undirected Unweighted Graphs</b>	<b>212</b>
Nikola Jerković, Jelena Stojanov and Ivana Berković	
<b>Digital School in Transition: Overcoming Resistance Through Mental Models and Organizational Learning</b>	<b>221</b>

Maša Magzan, Ana-Maria Karleuša and Snežana Jokić

<b>Enhancing Digital Competencies Through Visual Programming in Education</b>	<b>229</b>
Katarina Vignjević, Dragana Glušac, Nemanja Tasić and Marko Blažić	
<b>Understanding User Acceptance of Technology: A Theoretical Review of Behavioral Intention Models</b>	<b>236</b>
Vesna Rodić Lukić, Mia Marić and Nemanja Lukić	
<b>Towards Standardized Quality Practices for Custom Game Development Tools: A Contextualization of ISO/IEC 25010 Standard</b>	<b>242</b>
Vasilije Bursać, Dragan Ivetić and Aleksandar Kupusinac	
<b>Artificial Intelligence and Critical Thinking in Foreign Language Learning: From Theory to Practice</b>	<b>250</b>
Lela Ivanovska, Silvana Neshkovska and Milena Kasaposka-Chadlovaska	
<b>A Comparative Analysis of Locomotion Techniques in Virtual Reality for Architectural Visualization</b>	<b>258</b>
Danilo Bulatović and Dragan Ivetić	
<b>Management of Interdependent Data in Web Applications Using React and Redux Toolkit Illustrated Through a Video Game Point Calculation System</b>	<b>267</b>
Nikola Jovanov, Eleonora Brtka, Ema Brtka, Vesna Makitan, Velibor Premcevski	
<b>Data-Driven Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Insights from University Information System</b>	<b>275</b>
Aybeyan Selim, İlker Ali, Fehmi Skender	
<b>Improving Learning Recommendations Through Combined Audio and Text-based Sentiment Insights</b>	<b>284</b>
Aleksandar Kotevski, Blagoj Ristevski	
<b>Intelligent Educational Agents as Mediators in the Learning Process</b>	<b>294</b>
Katarina Vignjević, Dragana Glušac, Slavica Isakov and Marko Blažić	
<b>Integrating Artificial intelligence in Virtual Engineering for Architectural Visualization</b>	<b>301</b>
Darko Pajkovski, Igor Nedelkovski	
<b>Adoption of AI Technologies in IT Companies: North Macedonia Case</b>	<b>308</b>
Mihajlo Mitkovski, Elena Petkovska, Mimoza Bogdanoska Jovanovska	
<b>Analysis of the Internet Banking in the Macedonian Banking Sector and Other Countries</b>	<b>315</b>
Marina Blazhekovikj Toshevski	
<b>Circular Economy in Manufacturing Processes: A Comparative Analysis of the EU and Serbia</b>	<b>322</b>
Milica Jovanov	
<b>Transforming Human Resource Management: The Role of AI Technologies</b>	<b>328</b>

Tatjana Ivanovic and Mimoza Bogdanoska Jovanovska

<b>The Role of Caching in Real-Time Systems – A Case Study: Application of Redis in Monitoring Economic Indicators</b>	<b>333</b>
Teodora Siljanoska, Violeta Manevska	
<b>A Comparative Methodological Framework for Semantic Enrichment of Time Series Forecasting: Beyond the Balkans Case Study</b>	<b>341</b>
Teodora Siljanoska Taskovska, Snezana Savoska, Natasha Blazheska-Tabakovska	
<b>Practical Tensor Decompositions for NLP Embeddings with TT, Tucker, and CP</b>	<b>349</b>
Dilan Dobardžić, Višnja Ognjenović, Jelena Stojanov, and Vladimir Brtko	
<b>Applying semantic web technology in IoRT: A Review</b>	<b>354</b>
Valmir Sinani, Ramona Markoska and Natasha Blazheska-Tabakovska	
<b>Development and Functional Design of “Smart” Surgical Masks Based on IoT Technology</b>	<b>362</b>
Valentina Bozoki, Ineta Nemeša, Marija Pešić, Danka Đurđić, Igor Vecštejn	
<b>Development of a smart sleep monitoring ecosystem</b>	<b>368</b>
Kirill Zhilenkov, Konstantin Zheltov, Andrey Dorofeev, Irina Kuznetsova	
<b>Review of Analysis of Traditional Complexity Metrics and Their Applicability to IoT Devices</b>	<b>377</b>
Vuk Amizic, Dalibor Dobrilovic	
<b>Serbian Workforce Potential for Leading Global IT Projects</b>	<b>383</b>
Ivana Denčić, Sanja Stanisavljev and Vladimir Todić	
<b>ICT as a Catalyst for Effective Waste Management in the Circular Economy Context</b>	<b>390</b>
Saso Nikolovski, Bozidar Milenkovski, Anita Ilieva Nikolovska, Biljana Stojcevska and Viktorija Spasevska	
<b>East–West Perspectives on Social Media Use Among Older Adults: Lessons for the Western Balkans</b>	<b>398</b>
Dragana Bodirolga and Dragan Ivetic	
<b>Antiderivatives Solved with LLMs?</b>	<b>405</b>
Sonja Mančevska and Elena Karamazova Gelova	
<b>Deepfake Video Detection: How Far Have We Gone?</b>	<b>413</b>
Zoran Kotevski	
<b>Do Hyperbolic Heads Make Better Mistakes? A Minimal Euclidean-vs-Hyperbolic Comparison on CIFAR-100</b>	<b>422</b>
Dilan Dobardžić, Jelena Stojanov, Višnja Ognjenović, and Nikola Jerković	
<b>Validation of Parameters for AI Source Code Detector</b>	<b>428</b>
Eugene Alooeff, Yuliya Zhaltko	



<b>Application of Control Flow Graph in White Box Testing Techniques</b>	<b>435</b>
Zoltan Kazi, Ljubica Kazi	
<b>Comparative Analysis of Platforms for Analysis, Design and Product Development with a Focus on AI-Based Tools</b>	<b>443</b>
Borce Ugrinovski, Andrijana Bocevska, Kostandina Veljanovska and Blagoj Risteovski	
<b>Detection of Road Edge Lines Using Hough Transform</b>	<b>452</b>
Ivan Gašić, Marko Beljin, Željko Eremić, Vladimir Tadić	
<b>Design and Implementation of an Intelligent Virtual Medical Agent for Health Risk Assessment</b>	<b>457</b>
Anita Petreska, Igor Nedelkovski, Andrijana Bocevska, Blagoj Risteski	
<b>Orkes Conductor - performance comparison with Apache Kafka</b>	<b>467</b>
Srđan Popov, Jelena Ninković, Rade Radišić and Margarita Khazhoyan	

# Deepfake Video Detection: How Far Have We Gone?

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## **Abstract:**

The increasing sophistication and accessibility of Deepfake technology, which leverages advanced deep learning models to create realistic manipulated videos, poses a significant and escalating threat to information integrity, personal privacy, and public discourse. We may already be at a point where Deepfake videos are indiscernible from real, and in recent years we witness extensive efforts to develop robust and generalizable Deepfake detection methods. This research provides a review of the latest Deepfake video detection models and architectures, and discusses the key technical aspects that are still considered under-researched or represent major open challenges in this field.

## **Keywords:**

Deepfake video detection, Artificial intelligence, Deep learning

## **1. Introduction**

Deepfake technology leverages advanced deep learning models like Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) and Autoencoders to manipulate or synthesize realistic video content. While initially developed for benign purposes, Deepfakes have been largely exploited for malicious activities, necessitating effective detection mechanisms. The origins of what we now call Deepfake can be traced back to the academic research in the 1990s when basic machine learning techniques were used to swap faces in static images [1], while the term Deepfake was coined in 2017 [2] by a Reddit user named "deepfakes". The technology gained increased attention after 2010 with the significant advancements in machine learning, the availability of large datasets, and the power of new computing resources. The biggest breakthrough in deep learning fostering Deepfakes was presented by Goodfellow et al. [3] with the introduction of GANs, which enabled the next generation of highly sophisticated image, video, and audio Deepfakes.

According to Global Cyber Alliance report [4] from May 2025, we are witnessing an explosion of Deepfake fraud incidents, with North America seeing a 1,740% increase, the Asia-Pacific region up by 1,530%, and Europe experiencing a 780% increase in 2022 alone. McAfee research from April 2024 [5] revealed that 53% of respondents say Artificial Intelligence (AI) has made it harder to spot online scams. The alarming expansion rate of Deepfake threats is confirmed by the United Kingdom Government study [6], published in February 2025, which reveals that the number of Deepfakes shared on content platforms alone is projected to surge to 8 million in 2025, up from just half a million in 2023. Deepfake statistics by Zero Threat [7] from June 2025 state that in the first quarter of 2025 alone, there was a 19% increase in Deepfake incidents compared to the total in 2024. This is particularly concerning when we take into account the fraud from February 2024 [8] when a finance worker at a multinational firm in Hong Kong was tricked into paying out 25 million USD to fraudsters using Deepfake technology to pose as the company's chief financial officer in a video conference call.

Deepfake detection is critically important for several reasons, primarily because of the profound ethical, social, and political threats posed by the malicious use of this technology. While Deepfakes have some harmless applications such as in filmmaking, their potential for harm far outweighs their benign uses. In response to these potentially harmful consequences of Deepfakes, Deepfake detection has emerged as a critical area of research and development. Significant research regarding Deepfake detection has been published in recent years, but more research is needed, since Deepfake fraudsters seem to be a step ahead. In this research we review the latest achievements in the field of Deepfake

detection, and we aim to offer valuable insights in order to provide information for performance enhancements of Deepfake detection methods. Section 2 of this research presents Deepfake detection techniques, methods and models, while Section 3 gives an overview of the most widely used datasets created for training and evaluation of Deepfake detection methods. Section 4 provides a review on the latest Deepfake detection research, and Section 5 discusses the open challenges in the field. Section 6 concludes the paper with the summary of contribution.

## 2. Deepfake detection techniques, methods and models

Deepfake detection methods are classified into three main categories: visual-based methods, audio-based methods and multi-modal methods that combine the visual and audio part and simultaneously explore both signals [9]. Visual-based methods scrutinize the video frames for spatial and temporal inconsistencies that are often imperceptible to the naked eye. They are the most common form of Deepfake detection and employ several different approaches. Artifact-based detection approach focuses on the low-level imperfections or the digital fingerprints such as face inconsistency artifacts or up-sampling artifacts [10]. Audio-based methods are typically deployed to detect Deepfake in speech synthesis or voice conversion [11]. Speech synthesis focuses on generating entirely new speech from textual input, while voice conversion involves modifying the vocal characteristics of a source speaker to mimic a target speaker's voice. Multi-modal Deepfake detection method combines the analysis of both audio and video streams, by looking for inconsistencies between what is seen and what is heard [12]. These methods can provide a more robust and more accurate detection of Deepfakes.

Regarding the models employed, at the forefront of the fight against Deepfakes is the same technology used to generate Deepfakes, i.e. deep learning models, particularly Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) [13]. CNNs have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in identifying the artifacts and inconsistencies that are left behind by generative algorithms and excel at learning complex spatial and temporal features. These models are trained on vast datasets of real and fake media, learning to recognize the signs of manipulation. The most popular CNN architectures that have been adapted for Deepfake detection include XceptionNet [14], ResNet [15], VGG16 [16], and Densenet121 [17].

While CNNs excel at analyzing individual frames, Deepfake videos often exhibit inconsistencies over time, for which Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory Networks (LSTM) [18] are frequently used. RNNs and their more advanced variant, LSTMs, are designed to process sequential data, making them ideal for capturing these temporal anomalies. They can analyze the flow of frames in a video to detect unnatural motion and flickering, inconsistent head poses and facial expressions. RNNs and LSTMs are often used in conjunction with CNNs, where the CNN extracts spatial features from each frame, and the RNN/LSTM analyzes the sequence of these features.

In recent years, Transformers [19] are used as well. They rely on self-attention mechanisms instead of recurrence. As such, they have become the dominant architecture for many sequence-processing tasks, particularly in natural language processing, due to their superior handling of long-range dependencies and greater parallelizability. RNNs are adequate for applications that require computational efficiency and real-time processing.

## 3. Datasets

The quality and refinement of the Deepfake detection models is critically dependent the quality, the diversity, and the complexity of the training and testing datasets. Over the past several years, a number of key datasets have emerged, each contributing uniquely to the research landscape by providing a benchmark for performance evaluation and the generalizability of new Deepfake detection methods.

FaceForensics++ [20] is one of the most widely used and foundational datasets for deepfake detection. It consists of 1000 original video sequences that have been manipulated with four automated face manipulation methods: Deepfakes, Face2Face, FaceSwap and NeuralTextures. The dataset is available in different compression levels (raw, high quality, and low quality) to simulate the effects of video compression on social media platforms, which is a significant challenge for detection models. FaceForensics++ has been instrumental in benchmarking the performance of a wide range of Deepfake detection models and has served as a standard for academic research in the field.

DFDC dataset [21] was created for a global competition launched by Facebook in partnership with Microsoft, Amazon Web Services and academics. The DFDC dataset is the largest face swap video dataset, with more than 100 thousand video clips. The main contribution of the DFDC dataset is that it pushed the boundaries of Deepfake detection by providing a large-scale, diverse, and challenging benchmark that reflects the complexity of detecting Deepfakes in real-world environments.

The Celeb-DF dataset [22], developed by Li et al., aimed to address one key limitation of earlier datasets i.e. the presence of easily detectable visual artifacts. It consists of 590 original videos of celebrities sourced from YouTube and 5,639 corresponding Deepfake videos. Many detection models that performed well on older datasets have shown a significant drop in accuracy when tested on Celeb-DF. Celeb-DF raised the bar for Deepfake detection research by providing a more realistic and more challenging benchmark that reflects the advancements in Deepfake generation technology.

Deepfake-TIMIT [23], developed by Korshunov and Marcel, is one of the earlier Deepfake datasets and is particularly notable for its focus on audio-visual Deepfakes. It is one of the smallest collections, comprising only 620 videos with swapped faces while retaining the original audio, making it useful for research into both video-based and audio-based detection methods. Deepfake-TIMIT was an important early contribution to the field, particularly for researchers interested in the audio-visual aspects of Deepfake detection.

Recognizing the growing threat of multimodal Deepfakes, in 2021 the FakeAVCeleb dataset, by Khalid et al. [24], was created to facilitate the development of detection methods that can analyze both audio and video. FakeAVCeleb is based on the VoxCeleb2 dataset [25], and besides Deepfake videos, this dataset contains corresponding synthesized audio created using advanced text-to-speech and voice conversion models. FakeAVCeleb is a crucial resource for the development of robust, multimodal Deepfake detection systems that are necessary to combat the next generation of sophisticated forgeries.

DeeperForensics-1.0 dataset, by Jiang et al. [26], was designed to solve a critical problem that many detection models that worked well in laboratory settings, have failed when faced with real-world videos that have imperfections. It's a large-scale dataset containing 60 thousand videos, providing a vast amount of data for training. The core contribution of DeeperForensics-1.0 is that it pushes the research community to create Deepfake detectors that are not just accurate, but practical and resilient in the messy, unpredictable environment of the real world.

The OpenForensics dataset, by Le et al. [27] includes various media types, such as images, videos and audio, which allows for a broader range of forensic studies. The manipulations are designed to be realistic and challenging to detect, reflecting real-world scenarios. OpenForensics is a foundational dataset that helps to counter the threat of disinformation and manipulated content by providing the necessary resources to build and validate the next generation of forensic technologies.

#### 4. Latest research in Deepfake detection

In recent years, tremendous amount of research is focused on the development of effective Deepfake detection methods, techniques and algorithms. For Example, Cozzolino et al. [28] introduced an approach, named ID-Reveal, with an underlying CNN architecture that comprises a facial feature extractor, a temporal network and a GAN. Trained using VoxCeleb2 dataset, ID-Reveal shows improvement of more than 15% in terms of accuracy for facial reenactment on high compressed videos, compared to other state-of-the-art models. Wodajo and Atnafu [29] introduced a method to detect Deepfake videos by leveraging a Convolutional Vision Transformer (CvT), combining the strengths of CNNs and Vision Transformers (ViT). The model was trained and tested using DFDC dataset and achieved accuracy of 91.5 %, but performed poorly on the FaceForensics++ FaceShifter dataset. Gu et al. [30] proposed a method for Deepfake video detection by focusing on spatiotemporal inconsistency. The model uses CNN and employs a temporal modeling paradigm that analyzes the differences between adjacent frames in both horizontal and vertical directions. The model was trained on four public datasets: FaceForensics++, Celeb-DF, DFDC and WideDeepfake [31], and it have shown that it outperforms state-of-the-art competitors. Zhang et al. [32] introduced a Spatiotemporal Dropout Transformer (STDT). The research addresses the challenge that existing Deepfake detection methods, which often focus on single frames, fail to recognize inconsistencies across multiple frames. It was evaluated on FaceForensics++, DFDC and Celeb-DF datasets. The tests show that this approach

outperforms 25 other state-of-the-art Deepfake detection methods. Ge et al. [33] proposed a Latent Pattern Sensing (LPS) model that uses a self-supervised predictive learning mechanism to train its feature extractors. Experiments on three public benchmarks (FaceForensics++, DFDC and Celeb-DF) show that the LPS model outperforms 12 other state-of-the-art methods. Zhang et al. [34] proposed a two-stage clustering process method. This approach was tested on FaceForensics++ and their own dataset and it has shown to perform similarly to state-of-the-art detectors. Gu et al. [35] present a model that addresses a key limitation in many Deepfake detection methods, which is their failure to capture the subtle local motions and inconsistencies between adjacent video frames. The experiments showed this method outperformed the state-of-the-art model competitors on four popular benchmark dataset, i.e. FaceForensics++, Celeb-DF, DFDC and WildDeepfake. Liu, Wang and Wang [36] introduced a novel pipeline called Cross-Domain Local Forensics (XDLF). The framework also leverages four high-level forgery-sensitive local regions of a face, such as the eyes and mouth, to further enhance its detection capabilities. The conducted experiments on FaceForensics++, Celeb-DF and DFDC datasets have shown that the proposed method is superior over many state-of-the-art approaches on cross-dataset generalization. Deng, Suo and Li [37] propose a detection method using the EfficientNet-V2 network. The study utilizes two major datasets, FaceForensics++ and the newer FFIW<sub>10K</sub> [38], to train and validate the model. The proposed model demonstrated superior performance, achieving a validation accuracy of 97.9% on the FaceForensics++ dataset and 93.0% on the FFIW<sub>10K</sub> dataset. This surpassed the accuracy of existing networks like XceptionNet on the FaceForensics++ dataset. Xu et al. [39] introduced a method that addresses the issue that existing video-based Deepfake detectors are often computationally intensive. The research integrates a strategy named Thumbnail layout (TALL) with the Swin Transformer [40] to create an efficient and effective method called TALL-Swin. Experiments on Face Forensics++, Celeb-DF, DFDC, and DeeperForensics-1.0 show that TALL-Swin outperforms the state-of-the-art approaches. Elpeltagy et al. [41] proposed a new system for detecting Deepfake videos by analyzing both visual frames and audio. For visual frames, the system uses an upgraded XceptionNet model to extract spatial features. Evaluated on the FakeAVCeleb dataset, it has shown superiority over the existing state-of-the-art approaches. Ciamarra et al. [42] presents a method for detecting Deepfake videos by identifying “temporal surface frame anomalies”. The tests performed on FaceForensics++ dataset show that this methodology can achieve significant performance in detection accuracy.

Many other research efforts introduce novel Deepfake detection methods, such as Borade et al. [43], combining three distinct models: ResNet50, EfficientNetB7, and EfficientNetAutoAttB4 to design a robust, adaptable to the unique Deepfake detection mechanism that requires minimal computing power. Choi et al. [44] propose an approach to Deepfake video detection by analyzing the “temporal changes of style latent vectors” in generated videos in a framework that uses a module named StyleGRU, trained with contrastive learning, and includes a style attention module to detect both visual and temporal artifacts. Lu et al. [47] presented a method for detecting Deepfake videos by using a technique called Long-Distance Attention, to identify the subtle differences between real and fake faces that are often left as common artifacts in both the spatial and temporal domains, while Roy et al. [48] proposed a Deepfake video detection system that uses a combination of 3D CNNs and attention mechanisms. Zhai et al. [49] introduces the Dual-stream Frequency-Spatial Fusion (DFSF) network, an approach for Deepfake detection that improves generalization and robustness. The method addresses the limitations of detectors that focus only on spatial or frequency artifacts, which often fail against new forgery techniques or compressed videos. Hu et al. [50] propose Delocate, a two-stage model designed to improve the detection and localization of Deepfake videos, particularly those from unknown sources with randomly tampered areas, while Yan et al. [51] present a “plug-and-play” framework for Deepfake video detection, aimed to improve the model's ability to generalize to new, unseen manipulation techniques and datasets. Balara, Machova and Mach [52] explore the use of a variety of CNN based architectures to detect Deepfakes, particularly those depicting human faces. Satwika et al. [53] introduced a Deepfake video detection system that combines an EfficientNet model, which is a cutting-edge CNN architecture, and a LSTM network to analyze both spatial and temporal features of a video. Pawar et al. [54] proposed a real-time system designed to combat the spread of manipulated video content on social media. They develop a social media platform with an integrated AI-based CNN detection engine to identify Deepfakes during the upload process, and report detection accuracy between 85 and 90%. Nigade et al. [55] presented a framework for detecting Deepfake videos by combining two powerful machine learning techniques: ResNet50v2 and LSTM networks. The hybrid



model, leveraging both spatial and temporal analysis, was trained on a combined dataset of real and fake videos (FaceForensics++, Celeb-DF, and DFFD).

All the presented Deepfake detection methods have been evaluated on one or more datasets, and the results presented show high effectiveness and accuracy, but there are still challenges that need to be addressed, which is discussed in the following section.

## 5. Discussion

The research community has made significant accomplishments in the fight against the increasingly sophisticated Deepfake generation models, but several aspects are still considered under-researched or represent major open challenges in the field. Here are some of the key areas of Deepfake detection that are not yet thoroughly researched.

The Deepfake detectors are usually trained and evaluated on a single or multiple datasets, such as FaceForensics++, DeeperForensics-1.0, Celeb-DF etc., and are proven to be quite effective. But, they are rarely tested on in-the-wild Deepfakes and often fail when tested on Deepfakes generated by unseen architectures or from different datasets. Little work exists on universal detectors that can handle video, audio, and multimodal Deepfakes equally well. There is also a lack of models that can generalize effectively across different Deepfake generation architectures and across various video platforms which have different compression algorithms. A big research challenge would be the development of Deepfake detectors that can identify unknown manipulation techniques without requiring retraining, i.e. a universal detection method that doesn't rely on specific, known artifacts but instead learns to recognize the fundamental properties of real media.

Another issue is that the majority of Deepfake detection methods, especially the older ones, are concentrated on the visual domain only. However, Deepfakes are increasingly a multimodal phenomenon, incorporating manipulated audio and video, thus some of the newer research has begun to explore multi-modal detection (combining video, audio, and even text), but the fusion of these data streams in Deepfake detection approaches is far from perfected. Developing sophisticated fusion architectures that can effectively analyze and find inconsistencies between different data modalities is a challenging task. More research is needed to understand how artifacts from different modalities interact and how to develop detectors that can identify these combined manipulations.

One emerging critical area is the adversarial attacks [56] on Deepfake detectors. Deepfake creators are beginning to deliberately design their fakes to fool detection algorithms, by adding imperceptible noise to the Deepfakes that is specifically crafted to confuse the detector. Developing detectors robust to adversarial perturbations and intentional obfuscation is a challenging matter for future research.

Most advanced detection models require significant computational power, making them impractical for real-time applications on standard hardware. They are often too slow and resource-intensive to be deployed on mobile devices or for large-scale, real-time social media monitoring. Developing lightweight, efficient models that can run on consumer-grade hardware or even on edge devices is an important research challenge that needs to be addressed.

Deep learning models are often “black boxes”, providing a binary output (real or fake) without a clear explanation for their decision. This lack of interpretability is a major barrier to using Deepfake detection in high-stakes applications like journalism, legal proceedings, or law enforcement. The research field needs to expand to more reliable techniques to attribute a Deepfake to the specific generative model or software that created it, as well as to ensure the integrity of a suspected Deepfake as it is collected and analyzed for forensic purposes, making the findings admissible in legal proceedings. Research into human-interpretable forensic cues needs further research as well.

A promising area of research involves detecting Deepfakes at the hardware [57] and sensor level, because every camera sensor has a unique noise pattern, known as Photo-Response Non-Uniformity (PRNU). Research is needed to develop robust methods that can detect inconsistencies in these fingerprints to identify manipulated images and videos, as well as on the use of non-traditional sensors, such as thermal or depth sensors, to capture information that is difficult to convincingly synthesize with current Deepfake generation techniques.

Furthermore, social media platforms perform re-encoding to the videos, and add noise during this process that often degrades or erases subtle forensic traces. Therefore robust Deepfake detection



methods under heavy video compression are needed. Most research focuses on face-swapping, but Deepfakes are expanding to AI-generated art, text, and even full-body synthetic avatars, hence Unified detection frameworks for diverse synthetic media are required. As the creation of synthetic media becomes increasingly sophisticated and accessible, the field of Deepfake detection must evolve beyond its current paradigms. By exploring these under-researched technical areas, the research community can work towards building a more resilient and trustworthy information ecosystem.

## 6. Conclusion

In this research, we have surveyed the latest achievements in the Deepfake detection domain, examining various approaches. These methods have demonstrated significant progress in identifying manipulated content, leveraging advances in CNNs, self-supervised learning, and hybrid models that integrate audio, video, and textual cues. But despite these achievements, critical research gaps still remain. Adversarial resilience against imperceptible perturbations is still in its infancy, limiting real-world robustness. Cross-domain generalization beyond benchmark datasets, especially for unseen generation algorithms, requires more universal frameworks. The challenge of deploying lightweight, low-latency detectors on edge devices has not been fully addressed. Explainability is another frontier that current detectors lack transparent, forensic-grade reasoning for end users and legal contexts. Detection in compressed or degraded media and non-visual Deepfakes demand dedicated research as well.

Future work should prioritize the integration of adversarial defense mechanisms, domain-adaptive training strategies and efficient model architectures tailored for mobile and embedded platforms. Developing interpretable forensic cues alongside end-to-end detection pipelines will bridge the gap between automated analysis and human verification. Multimodal, cross-resolution frameworks that maintain high accuracy under compression and noise will be essential for real-world adoption. Addressing these challenges will not only fortify our defenses against evolving Deepfake threats but also pave the way for more transparent and trustworthy digital media ecosystems.

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