

# Evaluating Automated Facial Age Estimation Techniques for Digital Forensics

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# Who am I?

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- ▶ UCD Forensics and Security Research Group  
<https://forensicsandsecurity.com/>
- ▶ PhD Student University College Dublin
  - ▶ School of Computer Science
  - ▶ Digital Forensics
- ▶ MSc. Computing & Security, King's College London
  - ▶ Forensic Data Recovery from Android Smart Watches (Metropolitan Police)
- ▶ Systems and Computing Engineer, Pontifical Catholic University of Ecuador

<https://github.com/4nd4>

# Agenda

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- ▶ Digital Forensics Backlog
- ▶ Age Estimation Applications
- ▶ Evaluation of Cloud and Offline age prediction services
- ▶ Datasets for Researchers
- ▶ Dataset generator Software
- ▶ Results
- ▶ Conclusions





# Digital Forensic Backlog

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# Human Characteristics

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# Age estimation applications

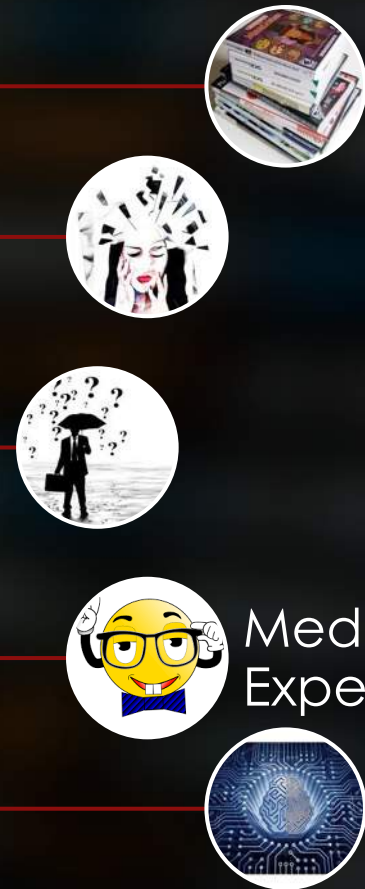
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# Age estimation in Digital Forensics

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Medical  
Expert



# Age estimation Accuracy

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- ▶ Mean Absolute Error (MAE)

$$|Inferred_{age} - Ground_{truth}|$$

- ▶ Machine Age Perception
  - ▶ 1 to 5 years
  - ▶ Limited private datasets
  - ▶ Lack of datasets for underage



Joyce aged six, 1888



# Age estimation Accuracy

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- ▶ Human Facial Age Perception
  - ▶ 2 to 8 years
  - ▶ Overestimation on young people
  - ▶ Own age bias
  - ▶ Range of factors
    - ▶ Gender
    - ▶ Facial Expressions
      - ▶ Neutral Highest accuracy



# Face Age Datasets

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Dataset	Image	Description
FGNET	1K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Subject timeline</li><li>- Ages 0 to 69</li></ul>
MEDS	1.3K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Deceased persons</li><li>- Ages 17 to 70</li></ul>
FERET	14K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Multiple subject poses</li><li>- Ground truth</li></ul>
MORPH	55K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ages 16 to 77</li></ul>
IMDB-WIKI	500K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Crawled images</li><li>- Ages 0 to 100</li></ul>
OUI-ADIENCE	26K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Flickr in the wild</li><li>- Age label groups</li></ul>
YFCC100M	100M	Flickr Images and Videos



# Face Datasets

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FERET Observations	FGNET	MORPH
MEDS	IMDB-WIKI	OUI-ADIENCE CC 89.55%
Flickr API Birthday Tags	YFCC100M Static metadata	





# Age estimation Services

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# Age Estimation Services

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Microsoft Azure

Amazon  
Rekognition

KAIROS

IBM Watson

How-Old.net

Deep  
Expectation  
(DEX)

Age/Gender.net

# Dataset Generator Software

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# System Architecture

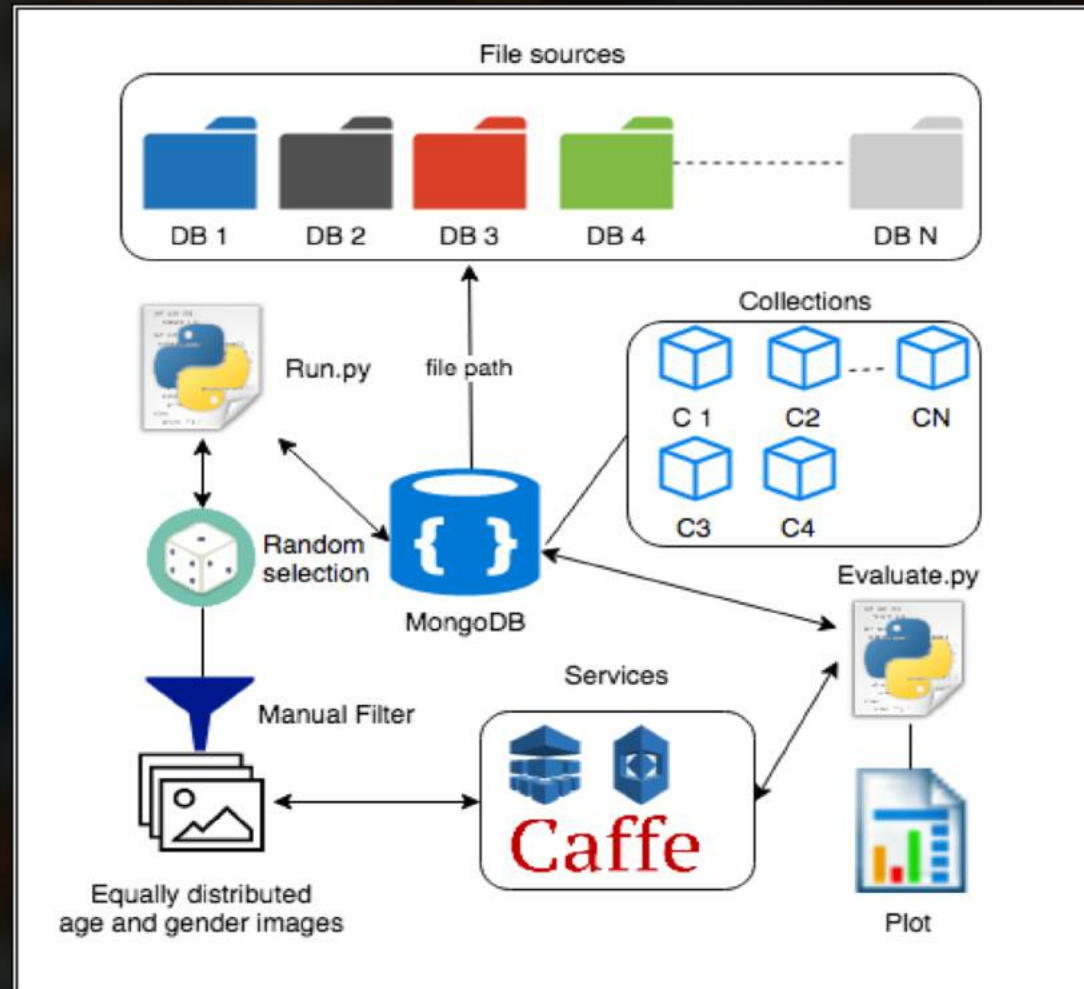
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Imbalanced datasets

Generate balanced  
dataset

Evaluate dataset

Plot data



[https://bitbucket.org/4nd4/image\\_database.git](https://bitbucket.org/4nd4/image_database.git)



# Issues encountered

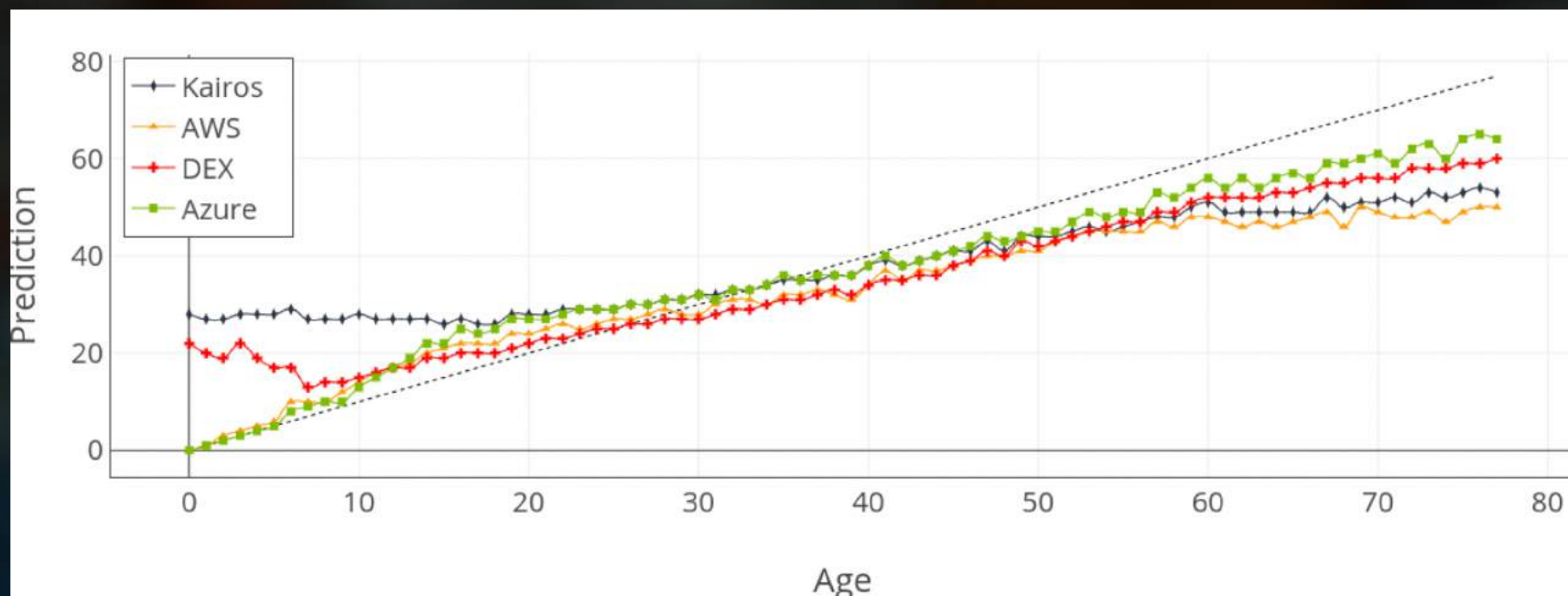
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- ▶ Data curation lessened the amount of images available
- ▶ Although the different databases were mixed, there wasn't enough images for certain age groups (Children/ Elders)
  - ▶ Change original experiment to the 0 -> 77 range.
    - ▶ 10k Male & Female

# Results

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Evaluation on entire age range



Service	MAE
Kairos	11.236
AWS	9.286
DEX	8.079
Azure	7.614

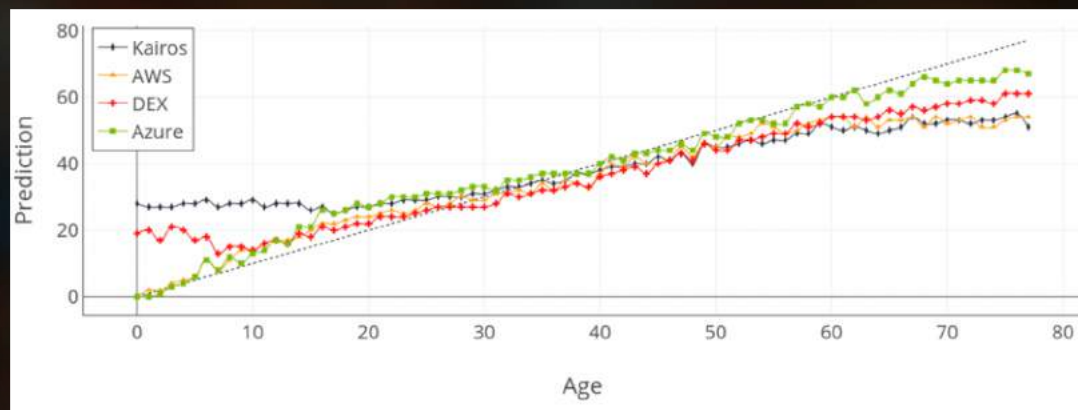
Average Estimated Age Compared with Actual Age across Entire Dataset.



# Results

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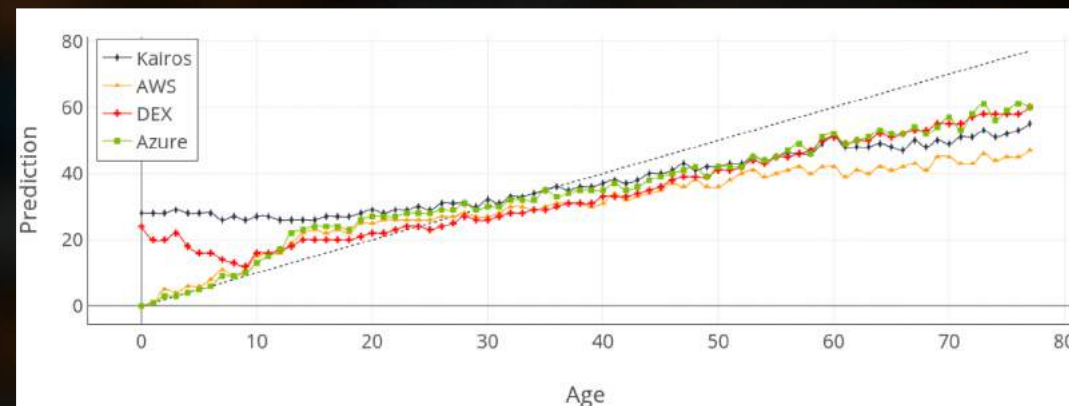
## Influence of gender



Males

Service	Male	Female
Kairos	10.6838	11.7960
AWS	7.2192	11.4057
DEX	7.1975	8.9613
Azure	6.4205	8.8092

Females

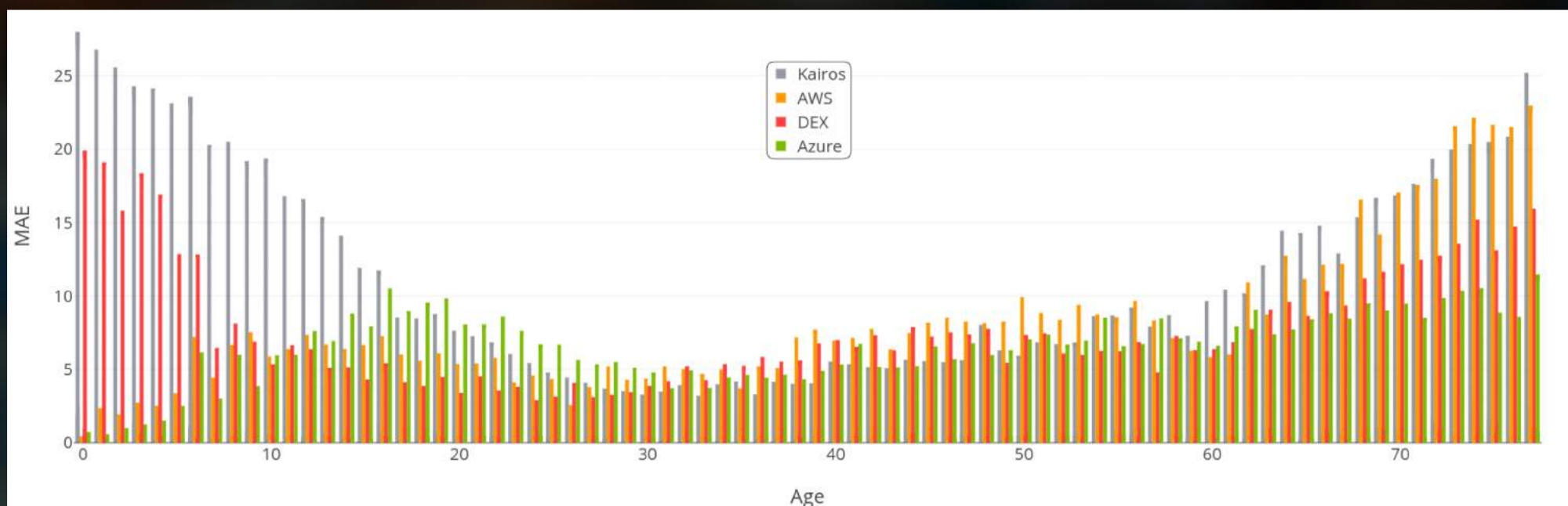


Average Estimated Age Compared with Actual Age

# Results

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Influence of Gender (Female)

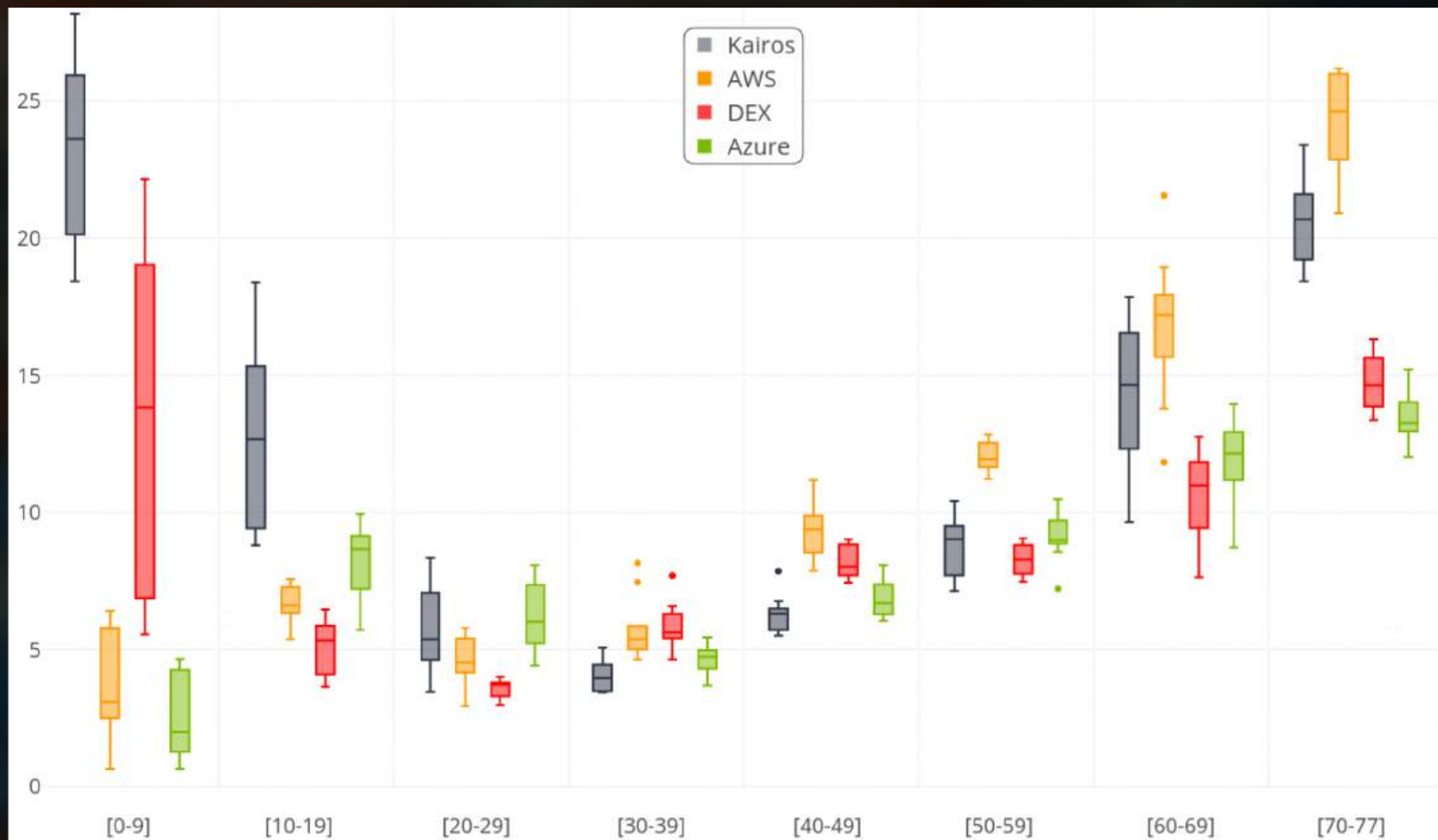


Mean Average Error Rate for Females

# Results

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## Experiment 3 – Age Range Analysis



Age Range	Lowest Mean Absolute Error
0-9	Azure
10-19	DEX
20-29	DEX
30-39	Kairos
40-49	Kairos
50-59	DEX
60-69	DEX
70-77	Azure



# Conclusion

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- ▶ Limited images on certain age factions
- ▶ Higher error rate for female subjects
- ▶ Although Microsoft Azure performed better then the other estimators, an age range analyze proved that other services performed better on certain ranges.

# Future Work

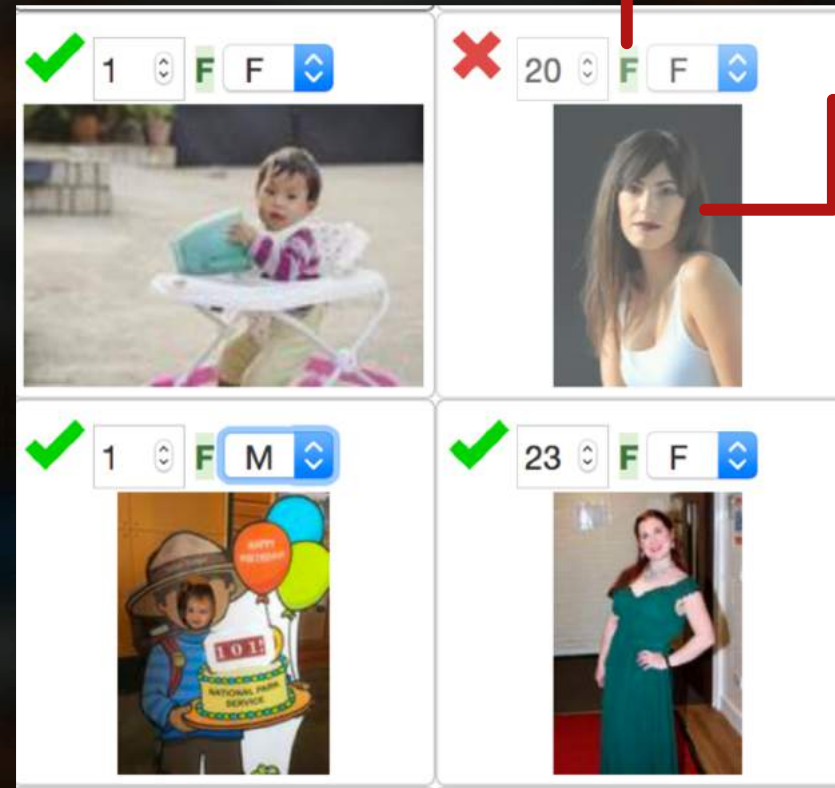
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- ▶ Weakness of current tools is predominant
- ▶ Expand this study further through different services
- ▶ Create a facial age dataset of underage subjects and create a model relevant to digital forensics.

# Project Visage

DeepEXpectation (DEX)  
Project Oxford (How-old.net)  
Microsoft Azure

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CNN, HOG  
(DLIB)



<https://www.forensicsandsecurity.com/visage.php>





# THANK YOU



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