# Vein Pattern Recognition For Biometric Identification

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**Abstract** - Cognitive radio is widely expected to be the next Big Bang in wireless communications. With the uniqueness of doing biometric authentication through subcutaneous vascular structures, vein pattern recognition is one secure and reliable form of biometric authentication learned. The progress, the technique through which progress is made, and advances in vein pattern recognition will be discussed in this study alongside notable gaps in research to provide solutions toward effective improvement of the system in terms of accuracy and robustness. The research identifies a few challenges in existing vein-based biometric systems that include cross-dataset reliability, lack of standard image quality evaluation metrics, background variation effect, and unavailability of large-scale public datasets. Interoperability between different imaging devices is another exploration that will make this research a big step towards security concerns such as spoofing. Improved preprocessing techniques, deep learning-based feature extraction, and imaging protocol standardization should form the basis of most proposed research approaches to complement the argument for underscoring. Direct comparison analysis with fingerprint recognition illustrates the vast superiority of vein biometrics in security, accuracy, and other safest environmental conditions. The statistics reveal a FAR of as low as 0.00008% for vein recognition against an acceptance of fingerprint recognition, which ranges from 0 to up to 2%. Also, the impact of environmental influences, dirt, and moisture on the recognition process are insignificant, making vein recognition a very reliable biometric modality in varying real-world applications. It is a practical case study of real benefit from vein recognition in areas like workforce management, fraud prevention, and operational efficiency- and the future research directions indicate: diversify datasets, exhaustive environmental testing, comparative studies between vein recognition and other biometric technologies, improvement of security mechanisms, and enhanced user experience. It can, therefore, be concluded that this kind of biometric authentication technology would give a very secure and reliable way of promoting vein pattern recognition. With still more advancement, it is likely to become a leading technology in secure access control, financial transactions, and even the daily management of workforces.

**Index Terms** – Vein Pattern Recognition(vpr), Near Infrared Imaging (nir), Palm Vein Recognition , Vascular Biometrics

## I. Introduction

In 1980, there was an engineer in automated controls, Joe Rice, who wished to find a more reliable method of personal identification after facing troubles with stolen bank cards. Rice created a system that used unique vascular patterns beneath the skin surface for identification. At first, there was little interest in this invention, and much skepticism was cast on it, but nevertheless, it would later turn out to be a forerunner of developments in vascular biometrics [1]. Vascular biometrics is a broad term that encompasses different biometric techniques that rely on an individual's unique vascular patterns for identification and authentication. [2]

These definitions provide a solid foundation for comprehending vein pattern recognition and its importance in the broader field of biometric identification. Initially met with doubt, the technology began to receive commercial interest in the late 1990s and early 2000s, with companies such as Hitachi and Fujitsu launching vein biometric products.

*A. Important Terms*

The field involving the measurement and statistical analysis of unique physical and behavioral traits used for authentication and identification.

*Vein pattern recognition (vpr)*: a biometric method that identifies individuals by examining the unique vascular patterns found beneath the skin's surface, typically visible in the fingers, palms, or forearms. [2]

*Near-infrared (Nir) imaging:* a method that employs near- infrared light to penetrate the skin, enabling the visualization of subcutaneous structures like veins. The presence of haemoglobin in the blood absorbs Nir light, resulting in the visibility of veins as distinct patterns. [3]

*Palm-vein recognition:* a specialized use of vpr that focuses on identifying individuals by analysing the distinctive vein patterns found in their palms. [4]

*Vascular biometrics:* is a broad term that encompasses different biometric techniques that rely on an individual's unique vascular patterns for identification and authentication. [5]

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The security and uniqueness of vein patterns have made biometric authentication research popular among academic and professional circles. In this survey, I review new literature that addresses changes in the issue and approaches to solving it.

*B. New vein feature extraction methods*

In order to create precise systems for vein pattern recognition, powerful feature extraction techniques are required. The previous techniques that relied on Independent Component Analysis and Principal Component Analysis split the vein pictures to independent components or primary features. Also, capture spatial and frequency information has been achieved through the application of Wavelet Transform techniques. Lately, there has been some attention directed to the deep learning models that are based on recognition of the Convolutional Neural Networks features, which build hierarchies of features from raw pictures of the veins, owing to their effectiveness in enhancing identification precision.

*Image acquisition and preprocessing*

Achieving accurate recognition relies on the quality of vein pattern images. Imaging NIR capture systems are used to capture vein patterns because they penetrate the skin and reveal subcutaneous veins [6]. Median filtering together with Contrast Limited Adaptive Histogram Equalization (CLAHE) are used in image preprocessing to enhance the contrast of the images and reduce noise to enable better feature extraction. [7]

*Classification and Matching Techniques*

After the features are extracted, the next step is the application of matching algorithms that will attempt to correlate the captured vein patterns with the stored templates. For this purpose, traditional classifiers such as Support Vector Machines (SVMs), and k-Nearest Neighbors (k-NN) have been used. Unfortunately, others techniques have proven to achieve inferior performance when compared to deep learning approaches, CNNs in particular, particularly because they are able to detect intricate vein patterns and use them for skin identification within an end-to-end framework without requiring intricate hand-crafted features. [8]

*Issues and Further Developments*

Problems with recognition of veins patterns remain even after the development of a convolutional neural network. Ambient light, anisotropic factors humidity, finger misplacement of the scanning system all affect image quality and system performance [8] . In the future, more attention will be paid to devising powerful robust image acquisition systems, efficient preprocessing algorithms, and creating large-scale patterns of vein images databases. This should help increase the reliability and accuracy of systems for biometric verifications based on veins patterns. [6]

This information describes the advancement and current progress in recognition of veins patterns ranging from the conventional ways to modern ones where deep learning is implemented to improve the systems of biometric authentication.

*C. Study Gaps of Biometrics Based on Vein Patterns Recognition Systems*

With all the advances made towards vein pattern recognition, there still exists a set of issues which are unsolved.

*Cross-Dataset Affinity:* Recognition student's performance on other datasets is worse than expected, and recognition techniques have very low generalizability. There is a significant need for the development of robust models which are less sensitive to data diversity. [9]

*Image Quality Assessment:* There are no effective measures of assessing the quality of vein images, particularly in regard to veins' patterns' intricacy or the portions of the veins, clarity. Such measures must be carried out to provide confidence in the recognition results.

*Background Influence:* Most approaches focus on identifying vein patterns and tend to ignore the various background images. Recognition systems can be made more powerful by utilizing background information. [10]

*Dataset Scarcity:* The absence of large-scale publicly accessible datasets of vein patterns limits the training and testing of recognition models. Making these datasets available would help in the development of these models.

*Standardization and Interoperability:* The quality and quantity of the data which is captured through different imaging devices and the conditions under which it is acquired differ, thus affecting the consistency of vein pattern data. Standardized procedures need to be set up.

This study endeavors to address gaps related to vein patterns recognition for biometric verification by: Improving: This study aims to fill the voids concerning vein patterns identification of biometric verification by:

*Improving Accuracy Across Datasets:* Construct models that allow for proper recognition of subjects across different datasets owing to capture errors that occur in the real world [9].

*Formulate Evaluation Standards for Imaging Quality:* Standards should be focused towards improved user functionality to help increase the reliability of image recognition results of vein images [11].

*Include Context Analysis and Recognition:* Analyze context along with the vein pattern so as to improve feature extraction for recognition systems [12].

*Expand Access to Databases:* Classify and store centrally large databases of vein patterns images to aid other researchers who need those images for recognizing models' creation [13].

*Dataset Accuracy:* Build models that capture subject recognition over different datasets for feature of misrecognition in real life situations.

*Establish Image Quality Evaluation Standards:* Develop functional standards that aid recognition results reliability for quality of vein image.

*Add Contextual Information Analysis:* Improve feature extraction of recognition systems by analysing vein pattern together with contextual information [14].

*Increase Availability of Datasets:* Increase systemization of collections containing photographs of vein patterns to enable other scholars improve recognition models.

*Create and Promote Basic Imaging Standards:* Set basic standards of imaging in order to improve inter-device recognition integration and encourage the use of these

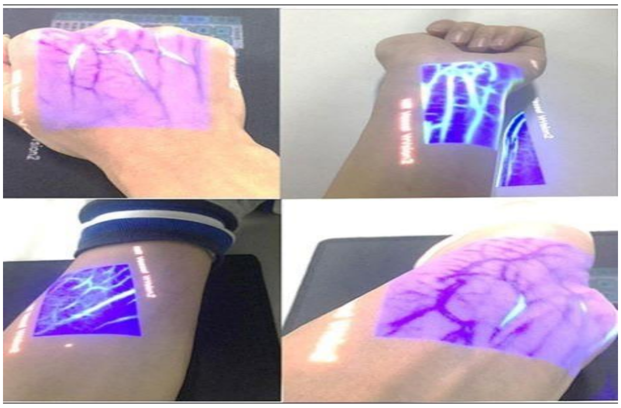
## II. Methodology

### *A. Materials Used:*

Near-Infrared (NIR) Light Source: Used to ensure subcutaneous vein pattern imaging. This light penetrates the skin; hemoglobin in enough blood absorbs this enough to give rise to distinct vein patterns. [15]

An image taken from the monochrome: Charge-Coupled Device (CCD) cameras will enable you to get high-quality images with better resolution based on the internal flatness of the vein in NIR light. [16]

This is an apparatus that will ensure that the angle at which the hand will be or the area where the finger will be standardized when resampling has taken place. [17] Computing System with Image Processing Software: It is basically software that gets the captured images and analyses their relevant features for many things. [18]



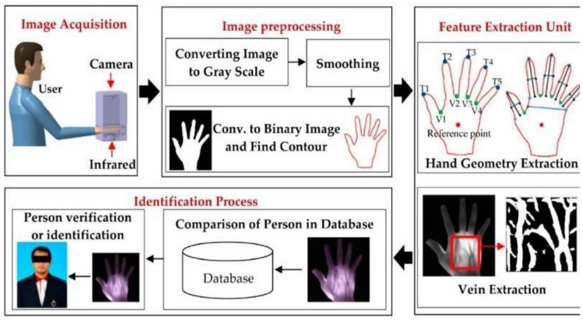



Fig.1 Projected Vein Visualization    Fig 2 Methodology for Vein Pattern Recognition in Biometric System

### *B. Image Acquisition*

Photographic imaging is the most crucial stage in biometrics where images of veins are captured and thus serve as the main basis for processing and analyses. This part looks deeper into it-the principles in vein imaging, its components, and critical points in image acquisition.

*Principles of Vein Imaging:* Optical properties of blood and surrounding tissue are the basis of vein imaging. Under exposure by near-infrared (NIR) light, hemoglobin within blood absorbs the NIR light and the blood appears darker than the surrounding tissue, which provides the opportunity for visualization and capturing the vein patterns beneath the skin.

*An Image Sensor (Camera):* Captures the images in NIR illumination of the vein patterns. Types: Charge-Couple Device (CCD) Cameras: Widely known for their ability to grab quality images with very little noise.

*Complementary Metal*-Oxide-Semiconductors (*Cameras*): More speedy processing and energy efficient.

*Optical Filters:* Improves the quality of the images taken by filtering out the unwanted wavelengths and letting the NIR light in, solely reaching the imaging sensor. Another apparatus is Hand Finger Placement Apparatus, with the function of being able to accurately replicate the position of the subject's hand or finger when capturing images. This step is always significant for repeatability and accuracy. As described in figure 1. [20]

*Near-Infrared (NIR) Light Source:* It is used for illuminating the part intended for the image acquisition such as a hand or finger with subcutaneous veins. Usually ranges with a wavelength of around from 700 to 1000 nanometers to enable penetration of human tissue and absorption by hemoglobin. As described in figure 2.

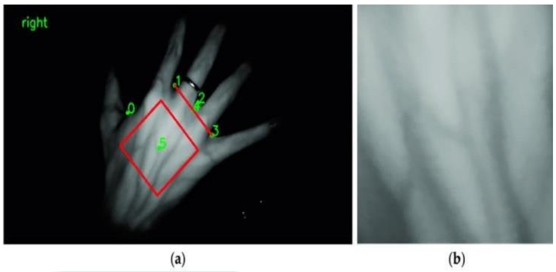



Fig. 3 Region of Interest Identification

*C.Process*

The subject positions the hand or finger in the proper location and the equipment, facilitating alignment and lack of movement. The source of NIR light shines evenly in the area where veins can be found through the skin. As described in Figure d [21].

*Capture of Images:* Imaging sensor guarantees recording of the illuminated vein pattern.

*Image profiling*: One of the chief goals of image processing in vein pattern recognition is to improve upon the quality of captured images, so that vein patterns are highly distinguishable and recognizable.

*Image Preprocessing*: This step of processing deals with those basic issues of noise, low contrast, and uneven illuminance. Contrasting techniques such as CLAHE were implemented to enhance the contrast of the image and help bring out the vein patterns. [22]

*Extracting the Region of Interest*: Defining the precise area where the vein pattern is found and isolating it is crucial. This refers to segmenting the image such that it is focused on the working area of the vein and leaving behind all that is not related to them [23]. As shown in Figure 3.

*Binarization*: Binarization in images is the process whereby a grey-scale image is converted into a binary image to distinguish the vein patterns from the surrounding tissue. In this, a threshold is set to classify the pixels either into vein (foreground) or non-vein (background) [23].

*Skeletonization:* This converts the vein patterns down to a one-pixel size while preserving information on the topological structure of the vein network. This simplifies the vein pattern and aids in feature extraction.

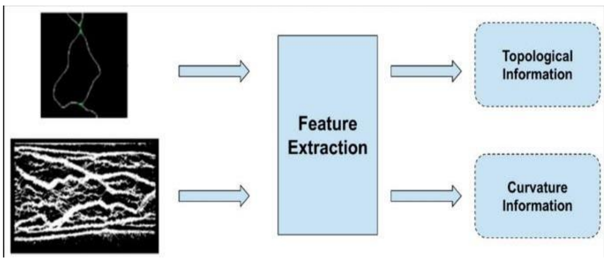



Fig. 4 Vein Feature Extraction Process

*D. Feature Extraction*

After vein patterns undergo a subsequent image processing enhancement, extraction of pertinent characterization feature follows, which may be used to figment the vein patterns. Some methods permit feature extraction, including: As described in figure g. [25]

*Repeated-line tracking (RLT):* It is a procedure that largely traces vein patterns by repeatedly tracking the dark lines in different directions, thereby accumulating evidences of vein locations, without calculating the cross-sectional profile of the vein.

*Maximum Articulating Method (MC Method):* Detects vein patterns from maximum curvature in the image, which means capturing effectively the centerlines of veins.

*Principal Component Analysis (PCA):* A mathematical transformation used to make the dimensions of vein image data small and, thereby, defining the most important evidences that contribute to the differences in individual vein patterns [26].

*Gabor Filters*: These filters were deployed to detect the vein patterns by analyzing in the image frequency and orientation information, thereby effectively capturing the texture of the vein structures. As described in figure 5.

*E. Feature Matching Classification*

For feature matching algorithms, Support Vector Machines (SVM), k-nearest neighbors (k-NN), or deep learning models using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) can be utilized for comparison against a stored database of vein patterns. Authentication of the subject is then established via comparison of the captured vein pattern with the template.

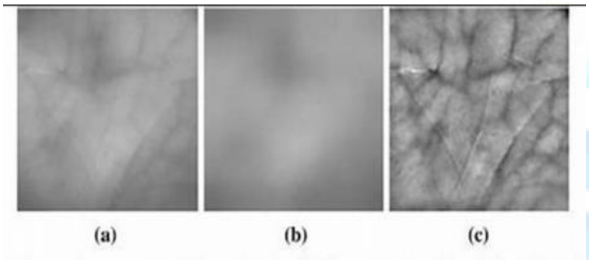



Fig. 5 Gabor filter application on vein pattern

## III. Results and Discussion

Overview of Vein Pattern Recognition is now regarded as one of the most reliable biometric authentication systems owing to its non- contact method, and independence of the environment [27]. Unlike conventional fingerprint recognition that is prone to extenuating circumstances like dirt and water, vein recognition provides a much safer and sanitary option.

Every person has their unique vein pattern which cannot be replicated by anyone else. This new advanced qualitative biometric technique is for the safe identification and forensic investigation of the veins lying beneath the skin of each individual. Unlike fingerprinting which includes external patterns and ridges formed on the surface of the skin, vein pattern recognition employs a high infrared imaging system that captures vein patterns as they lie deep in the body. [28]

*A. Important Features*

No contact mode: Unlike Hand Geometry Recognition, there is no inference of contact hygiene but entails someone coming into proximity with the scanning device for detection.

Environmental Condition Immunity: Basically, invulnerable to its natural pattern; being in dampness, dirt and fatigue only deter performance with any biometrics, such as fingerprints.

Fraud Resistance: Internal, thus least likely to fabricate and forge recognition in vein pattern. [29]

They are all different in terms of properties but can be treated under one blanket by defining some aggregate features of shape for classifying identification techniques using vein patterns by light applications and properties: -Diffused Light: Only difference will be skin reflection, same-sided NIR light and sensors. It does not depend on thickness of skin. -Direct Light: Direct incoming NIR light source to veins regardless of differences in thickness of the skin. - Top Lightning: Extreme contrast imagery. Highly requires environmental conditioning; therefore, a bigger scanned unit is needed. Bottom Lightning: Very inexpensive, though less efficient for imaging vein patterns on fingertip. -Side Ambient Lighting: Biased, compared against more specific needs of other additional lighting and heavy processing but have advantages related to depth.

They are elaborating on creating images of the vein patterns or employing post-capture processing and filtering programs to eliminate any other artifacts, such as hair or environmental artifacts that may get captured with the better vein pattern, after capture.

*B.* Introduction to case study

11 states across which Yarco has deployed time management and payroll solutions for an estate agency managing approximately 12000 apartments. Minimal costs of activities in the market for residential investments touch under $600 million, while operational premises across the states exceed 100. The company's dependent cost centers due to payroll processing and timekeeping malpractices. [30]


Fig. 5 Yarco Company case study

Manual Clocking In/Out: Employees recorded their own time entries, giving rise to gross discrepancies.

Delayed Payroll: Timecards meant for the contacted personnel take more than two days because of a manual entry said to be the cause thereof, wasting these two days before being disseminated across departments-any matters payroll related of this nature apply.

Absence of Review System: Nothing in approving submission of timesheets in any payroll generating activity is left open for review or scrutiny.

Buddy Punching: A type of evil deception in which an employee punches for another employee that is absent.

*C.Vein Pattern Recognition Implementation*

The New Biometrics Payroll System by Yarco is also for the purpose of integrating easily with a vein pattern recognition interface, that is: [30]

Installation of VPR Devices: Presently, scanners have been set in over 100 of the company sites [31] .

Central Server: All vein pattern templates of employees will exist there together with their verification and time records.

Automatic Time Registration: e-in-out-times were automatically recorded by means of vein recognition without any human entries involved.

Web-Based Management System: If this is it, a management system where payroll data can approve backlogs on real-time basis.

*D. Achieved Results*

90% Increase in Payroll Efficiency: Transform payroll from well above two days to a few minutes.

50% Of Administrative Overheads Saved: The 7 .14 process of faxing and manual entry has been done without.

Buddy Punching Is Now Completely Eliminated: Unique vein patterns prevented unauthorized punching, thus leaving the attendance records in pristine order.

Enhanced Secured Data in a Centralized Manner: Integrity and real-time tracking of data were greatly enhanced by this centralized system.

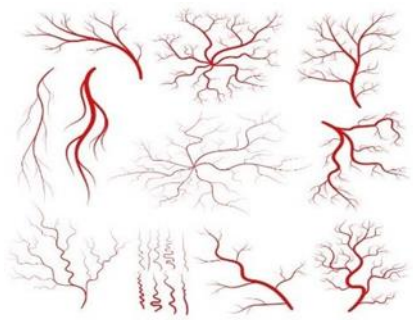


Fig. 6 Variations of Vein Patterns

*E. Advantages and Disadvantages of Vein Recognition*

There is no doubting that vein recognition is the most secure and accurate biometric tool available. Yet, some areas still need more research and optimization

High Security: Extremely customized vein patterns make it virtually impossible to forge, non-contact

Hygienic: Compared to fingerprint scanning, vein scanning is entirely contactless, without any issue of hygiene.

Minimum Environmental Impact: Works perfectly regardless of the humidity, grime, or sweat.

Broad Set of Applications: Employed for financial transactions, secure access, and personnel management.

*F. Discussions*

Fingerprint Biometrics Enrolment Rates: This is because they cannot read around 3-5% of some populations, and even that is a fraction of the total enrolment for VPR adoption.

Environmental Robustness: The internal conditions, which limit the working/the efficiency of fingerprint scanners, like dirt and moisture, do not apply to vein recognition technologies since they are considered internal biometric modalities and hence are free from scopes of environmental influences.

Security: Duplication of veins is tough while easy access and reproduction of fingerprints are the opposites.

Comparative analysis of the various types of biometrics: Performance wise, the VPRs are at a real mark better than others

VID system (Depth Cameras): Out of 35 users - "correct and indisputably better" 99% of the time as compared to analysis of Wi-Fi signal and wearables, which have a lot less accuracy.

Palm Vein Authentication: A relatively stable system for recognition which largely discounts skin colour, and external conditions would be these alternative modes of biometric recognition, fast making their way into high-stakes transactions and access control.

*G.* Environment Conditions

Fingerprinting identification, as shown by Graph 2, is affected significantly by dirt, sweat, and moisture. This causes a lot of accuracy to suffer. Conversely, venous recognition may turn into just a small annoyance; this is the basis of the application for credible established odds of a world populated mostly with users who would have dirty or sweaty hands.

Graph 2: Environmental energy to the accuracy of biometrics. Environmental Reliability: This pertains to vein recognition, in which application shall be essential when applied for high security, like companies for high standards of security in access control and transaction reliability. As shown in Figure k.

Status of Fingerprint Recognition Skin Condition, Moisture, and Lotions rub into the hands and affect fingerprints, in effect, drying the mouth completely. He/she would face the most significant losses due to damage caused to his/her recognition performance and accuracy by scanners affecting the fingerprint.

Vein Recognition Environmental Resilience-An external contaminant is not likely to affect system processing of vein patterns because the internal patterns are well encased under veins; it thus holds strong as a biometric feature in most environments.

*H. Examination of the Findings on Vein Pattern Recognition*

Advantages of Current Study

Unique Identification: Vein patterns remain unique even among identical twins. Thus, an identity superior to that can be verified.

Very High Accuracy: It has been reported that the FRR may drop as low as 0.01%, while FAR may be as low as 0.00008%.

Robust Methodology: Well defined and precise data acquisition, image processing and matching ensure accuracy and reliability of the system.

Versatile: Financial transactions, access control, and all other applications related to user

*I. Comparison of FAR and FRR between Vein and Fingerprint Recognition*

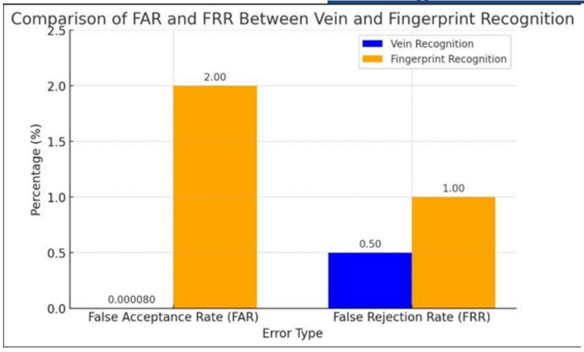



Fig. 7 Graph comparing FAR and FRR values for both technologies

The above two accuracy metrics are different because vein patterns have their own intrinsic characteristics. Being subdermal, vein patterns remain unaffected over time and by extraneous factors, whereas fingerprints, being externally located, could be marred or contaminated by cuts, scars, and other such intrusions. As described in figure 7.

*J. Limitations Existing for the Study*

Limited Dataset Information: Studies have little to no demographic information on the diversity of subjects being tested. This inability further compromises the evaluation of performance at different population scales.

Environmental Effects Data Not Collected: Although VPR may appear to be sufficiently robust, the field test under changing conditions like extreme temperature or humidity is missing.

Lack of Comparative Analysis: Existing research does not extensively compare VPR with other biometric methods such as iris recognition.

User Experience Considerations: The usability and possible discomfort of scanning procedures in actual applications remain under-researched.

Security Concerns: Despite VPR being resistant to forgery, possible threats such as hacking of stored biometric templates should be investigated further.

*K.Suggestions for Future Work*

Widening the Area under Study: To include multiple demographic data for testing performance on several populations.

Testing Under Environmental Conditions: To provide stringent testing for the resilience of the system.

Comparative Study: Allow a head-to-head comparison of the system with fingerprint, iris, and facial recognition systems.

User Experience Studies: Test for ease of use and acceptance in practical settings.

Security Improvements: To suggest ways of potentially avoiding security threats such as biometric template theft.

*L. Summarizing*

The observations made during the implementation and research of Vein Pattern Recognition show that it has great potential as a secure and efficient biometric technology. Its distinct advantages over conventional modalities in respect to security, reliability, and robustness against environmental variations qualify it for application in very sensitive cases. Further research is warranted to fill some existing gaps, especially by introducing a greater dataset diversity, assessing the impact of environmental conditions, and analyzing various threats to security. Advanced biometric authentication will therefore see VPR making great contributions toward the future of identity verification systems.

## IV. CONCLUSIONS

The objective of the current research was to investigate the potentiality of vein pattern recognition as a good secure biometric authentication technique. The study was motivated by specific objectives such as improving cross-dataset reliability, developing metrics associated with image quality assessments, incorporating background analysis, expanding availability of datasets, and standardizing imaging protocols. These points may be some further objectives that research aims to achieve the purposes of improvement in accuracy, reliability, and applicability of vein pattern recognition in actual biometric systems.

*A. Literature Survey and Technological Advancements*

The literature survey traced the slow evolution of vein recognition techniques from the early independent component analysis (ICA) and principal component analysis (PCA), via various contemporary deep learning-based implementations. However, near-infrared imaging is the most significant factor for good image acquisition of vein patterns in humans, with preprocessing techniques like

Contrast Limited Adaptive Histogram Equalization (CLAHE) improving the image for clearer feature extraction. Also, convolutional neural networks (CNNs) are now taking over conventional matching techniques such as support vector machines (SVMs) and k-nearest neighbours (k-NN) in classification accuracy.

*B. Comparative Studies and Practical Applications*

Comparative studies carried out between vein and fingerprint recognition confirmed maximum security and maximum accuracy with vein biometrics. Results indicated a remarkably low False Acceptance Rate (FAR) of 0.00008% for vein recognition with a gigantic margin over fingerprint recognition, which may possess an FAR of 2%. Moreover, environmental factors like dirt and moisture evidently have almost no considerable effect on the accuracy of vein recognition, while really given a blow to the accuracy of fingerprint recognition. Such practical applications at Yarco Company further lend credence to the practicality of vein recognition in the management of its workforce, fraud detection, and improved operational efficiency.

*C.* Importance and Application

These findings matter a lot because they apply in all areas where security is of paramount importance: banking transactions, access to secure facilities, and workforce management. Another thing to note is that vein pattern recognition provides a noncontact and hygienic means in industries where cleanliness is of utmost importance, such as healthcare or food processing. Additionally, the ability to resist interference and spoofing attacks makes vein recognition a strong contender in high-security zones.

*D. Challenges and Limitations*

The work has also pointed out several challenges and limitations of existing vein recognition systems. The most significant one is the absence of a large public dataset, which limits improving model generalizability. Another major issue that needs to be resolved is lack of standardization and cross-compatibility with respect to different imaging devices and acquisition conditions. In addition, potential security attacks, particularly infrared-based spoofing assaults, should also be considered.

*E. Future Research and Directions*

The following areas should be focused on for future research on technology in vein pattern recognition:

Diversity enhancement on the collected dataset: to enhance the recognition validity for the users of various demographics, large-scale population datasets with diversity should be collected and shared.

Environment testing: systems tested under extreme environmental conditions like high humidity and different temperatures, distortions should be considered.

Comparing Other Biometrics: Vein recognition can also be compared to other biometrics like iris and facial recognition to establish their relative merits and demerits over the other biometry types.

Security Improvements: New and advanced containment countermeasures against spoofing threats need to be developed and storage encryption techniques need to be enhanced for better protecting biometric templates.

User-friendly and integrated experience: Conduct usability study to improve the interface of the system and maximize vein recognition implementation in various industries.

All in all, vein pattern recognition is indeed an above-the-challenge development in biometric authentications. It advances security, accuracy, and resistance against externality compared with other modalities. As research continues and more improvements develop in technology, this mode shall emerge as the major mode in the sector of identification and authentication for secure identification and authentication across various domains

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