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# Learning Unified Representations for Multi-Resolution Face Recognition

## - Supplementary Materials -

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## 1 A Appendix

### 2 A.1 Theoretical Derivation of Up-sampling Error

3 Here, we take bilinear interpolation, a typical image interpolation method, as an example to analyze the  
4 relationship between the interpolation error and the resolution of a face image. Bilinear interpolation  
5 can be considered as a bivariate Lagrange interpolation problem containing two interpolation nodes  
6 in each of the two dimensions.

7 Let  $D$  be a unit-bounded closed region in a two-dimensional image space, and  
8  $Q_1(x_0, y_0), Q_2(x_1, y_0), Q_3(x_0, y_1), Q_4(x_1, y_1) \in D$  be four adjacent pixel points in this region.  
9 We use an interpolation polynomial  $P(x, y)$  for the interpolation approximation of the bivariate  
10 continuous function  $f(x, y)$  defined on  $D$ , and the interpolation error  $E(x, y)$  can be expressed as

$$E(x, y) = f(x, y) - P(x, y) \quad (1)$$

11 which indicates the potential error information introduced to the recognition of different identities.  
12 According to the the Rolle's theorem, we can obtain

$$E(x, y) = \frac{\partial^4 f(\xi, \eta)}{4 \partial x^2 \partial y^2} \omega_2(x) \mu_2(y) \quad (2)$$

13 where  $\xi, \eta$  is an interior point of  $D$  and

$$\omega_2(x) = (x - x_0)(x - x_1) \quad (3)$$

$$\mu_2(y) = (y - y_0)(y - y_1) \quad (4)$$

14 As  $x_1 - x_0 = y_1 - y_0 = 1$  for adjacent pixel points, we can get the upper bound of  $|\omega_2(x)|$  and  
15  $|\mu_2(y)|$

$$|\omega_2(x)| < \frac{1}{4}, |\mu_2(y)| < \frac{1}{4} \quad (5)$$

16 Thus, the error estimation can be expressed as

Table 1: Comparison of different training methods for our BTNet. ‘‘Acc.’’ denotes average 1:1 verification accuracy. ‘‘# Params.’’ indicates the amount of parameter storage for the branch network  $B_{14}$ .

Training method	Acc. (%)		# Params. (M)
	112&14	14&14	
Scratch	49.90	78.00	43.59
Pretraining	78.05	76.87	43.59
Pretraining + BCT	85.90	78.04	43.59
Pretraining + BCT + Fix Trunk	85.07	77.22	2.29
Pretraining + BCT + Fix Trunk + Branch Distillation	94.08	90.90	2.29

$$E(x, y) \leq \frac{|\frac{\partial^4 f(\xi, \eta)}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2}|}{64} \quad (6)$$

17 where  $\frac{\partial^4 f(\xi, \eta)}{\partial x^2 \partial y^2}$  can be approximated using the difference operator

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

18 Based on the above theoretical analysis, we can experimentally study the relationship between the  
19 estimated up-sampling error and the image resolution.

## 20 A.2 Instantiation of BTNet-res50

21 We provide the detailed architecture of BTNet-res50 ( $\varphi_{bt}$ ), an instantiation of BTNet framework  
22 based on ResNet50 [1]. Our method can be easily implemented by refining a network with the  
23 top-down hierarchical representation structure.

## 24 A.3 Ablation Study

25 In all these experiments, we report the average verification results on six benchmarks in 112&14 and  
26 14&14 matching, representing cross-resolution and same-resolution performance respectively.

27 **Training Method Alternatives.** Here, we experimentally compare different training methods:  
28 (1) Scratch: train without pretrained trunk parameters. (2) Pretraining: initialize the backbone  
29 and classifier with the pretrained trunk network. (3) Backward-compatible training (BCT, [2]): fix  
30 parameters of the old classifier. (4) Fix-trunk: fix parameters of the trunk subnet  $T_r$ . (5) Branch  
31 distillation: use L2-distance to obtain the loss between the intermediate feature maps at the coupling  
32 layer of the pretrained trunk  $T$  and the branch  $B_r$ .

33 We compare different training method combinations in Table 1 and find that both pretraining and  
34 BCT succeeded in ensuring representation compatibility. Among these two, BCT performs better  
35 since it imposes a stricter constraint during training. Furthermore, we are able to observe that  
36 branch distillation is crucial for improving the discriminative power by transferring high-resolution  
37 information to low-resolution branches.

38 **Where should we have resolution-specific layers?** We conducted an ablation to see the effects of  
39 different specific-shared layer allocation strategies. The experiment was done with different trunk  
40 layers (i.e., the parameters of these layers are inherited from the pretrained trunk without updating).  
41 Figure 2 shows the results. We find that increasing the number of branch layers (i.e., specific layers for  
42 different resolutions) will lead to better performance due to increased flexibility. Our specific-shared  
43 layer allocation of BTNet can achieve better parameter/accuracy tradeoffs. Since further increasing  
44 the number of trunk layers based on BTNet cannot lead to significantly better performance but

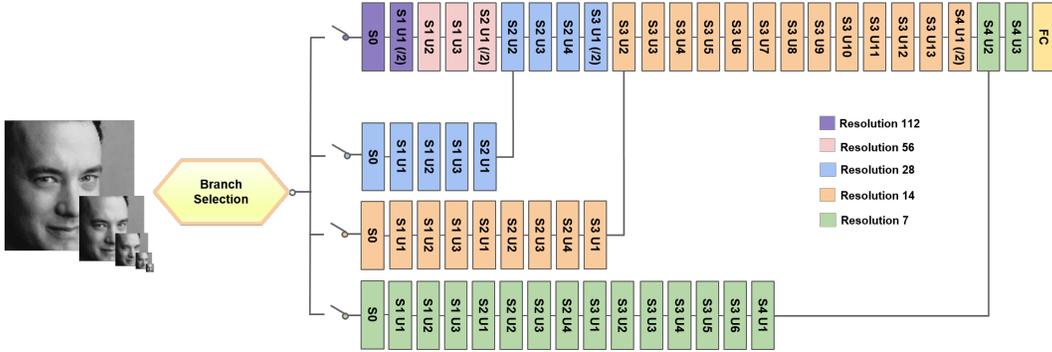


Figure 1: Detailed architecture of BTNet-res50 ( $\varphi_{bt}$ ). Note that ‘S’ and ‘U’ represent stage and unit respectively, and ‘/2’ means down-sampling by convolution with stride 2.

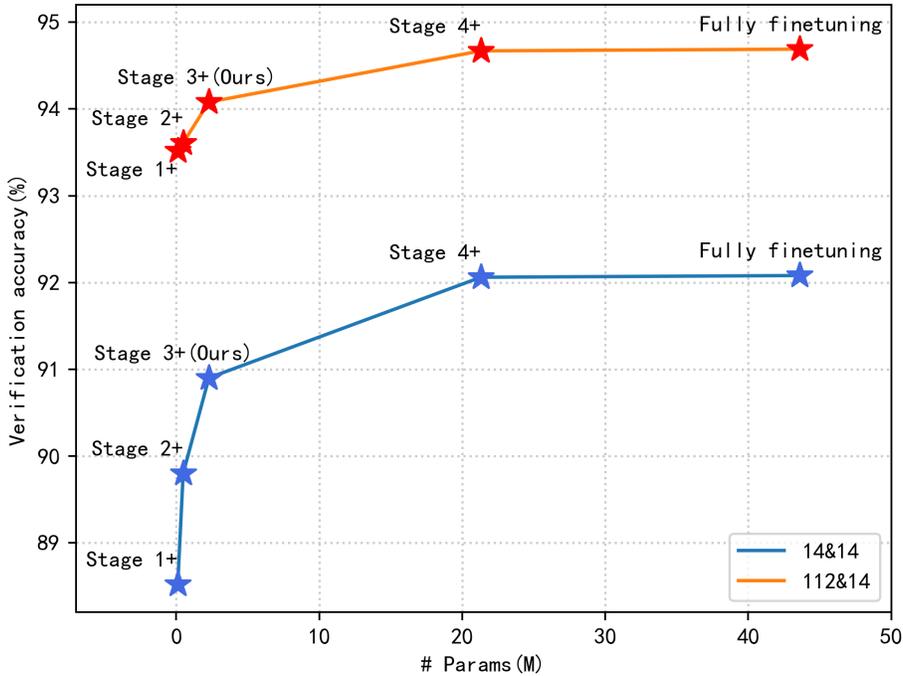


Figure 2: Comparison of verification accuracy and the amount of stored parameters for different specific-shared layer allocation strategies. Note that “Stage x+” indicates that layers deeper than “Stage x, Unit 1” are inherited from the pretrained trunk without updating.

45 increases parameter storage cost by a large margin, we use resolution-specific layers as shown in  
 46 Figure 1.

#### 47 A.4 Visualization

48 To interpret the behavior of learning compatible and discriminative representations, we visualize  
 49 the intermediate feature maps in Figure 3. We find that  $\varphi_{hr}$  introduces the noise information while  
 50  $\varphi_{mm}$  has more discriminative but resolution-variant feature maps. The feature maps of  $\varphi_{mr}$  tend  
 51 to be smoother, diminishing the error information, but the discriminability could be limited as  
 52 high-frequency details benefit recognition [3].

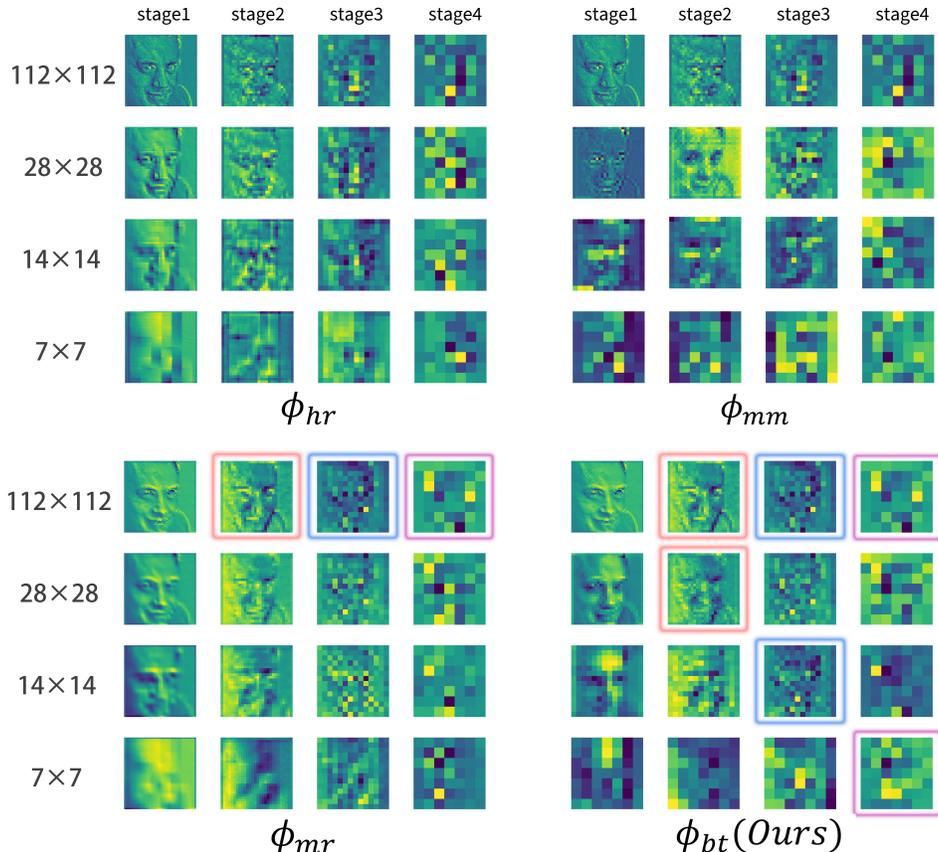


Figure 3: Visualization of intermediate feature maps for inputs with different resolutions. We show the feature maps located at output layers of BNets, denoted as stage1/2/3/4 respectively. We see our method can transfer multi-resolution visual inputs to intermediate feature maps at corresponding layers (indicated by bounding boxes of the same color) of TNet.

53 We also show that through the resolution-specific feature transfer of multiple branches,  $\varphi_{bt}$  can  
 54 encourage the transferred features to be aligned before fed into the trunk network in corresponding  
 55 layers. For instance, at stage 2, the feature maps of  $\varphi_{bt}$  with input resolution 112 and 28 are more  
 56 similar than those of  $\varphi_{hr}$ ,  $\varphi_{mm}$ ,  $\varphi_{mr}$ . Furthermore, more detailed information can be found in  
 57 the feature maps of  $\varphi_{bt}$  with input resolution 28, compared to  $\varphi_{mr}$ . This inspiring phenomenon  
 58 suggests that BNet can learn compatible representations while improving the discriminability in  
 59 low-resolution domain through the knowledge transferred from high-resolution visual signals.

## 60 A.5 Additional Experimental Results

61 **Multi-Resolution Identity Matching.** We report the detailed results for 1:1 verification on each  
 62 dataset (i.e., LFW, CFP-FF, CFP-FP, AgeDB-30, CALFW and CPLFW). The relative drop of  $\varphi_{bt}$  in  
 63 high-resolution setting (i.e., 112&112) becomes almost negligible compared to the improvement for  
 64 all the other settings which incorporate low-resolution inputs.

65 **Multi-Resolution Feature Aggregation.** We report the detailed results on the IJB-C dataset,  
 66 including TAR at different FAR (see Table 3, 4), ROC Curve (see Figure 4, 5) for 1:1 verification,  
 67 and TPIR at FPIR=0.01, Top-1, Top-5, Top-10 accuracy (see Table 6, 7) for 1:N identification. We  
 68 are able to observe that  $\varphi_{bt}$  can be comparable to or serve as the paradigm model (i.e., model with  
 69 the best performance) in each resolution setting, both for identity matching and feature aggregation.

Table 2: Detailed cross-resolution 1:1 verification accuracy (mean±std over 5 trails) per-benchmark.

		$\varphi_{hr}$	$\varphi_{mm}$	$\varphi_{mr}$	$\varphi_{bt}$ (Ours)
112&7	LFW	63.0±2.0	51.5±2.6	77.4±1.4	<b>96.1±0.7</b>
	CFP-FF	56.2±1.2	51.2±2.0	64.7±2.0	<b>90.9±1.3</b>
	CFP-FP	54.9±1.3	49.8±1.6	60.8±2.5	<b>80.2±2.3</b>
	AgeDB-30	57.3±1.6	50.0±1.4	60.5±2.0	<b>79.8±2.3</b>
	CALFW	58.5±1.7	51.2±1.6	66.1±1.8	<b>87.8±1.7</b>
	CPLFW	56.6±1.6	49.8±1.5	65.6±1.3	<b>81.8±1.3</b>
112&14	LFW	91.0±1.2	49.1±1.3	96.9±0.6	<b>99.4±0.3</b>
	CFP-FF	81.7±1.7	50.0±1.5	90.4±1.0	<b>98.2±0.4</b>
	CFP-FP	75.5±1.4	50.2±2.0	82.3±1.8	<b>92.6±1.2</b>
	AgeDB-30	76.9±1.5	51.3±1.8	82.7±1.1	<b>91.3±1.2</b>
	CALFW	81.8±1.0	49.7±1.5	88.0±0.8	<b>93.9±1.1</b>
	CPLFW	79.2±1.3	49.1±1.4	84.5±1.4	<b>89.1±1.7</b>
112&28	LFW	99.5±0.3	48.9±1.1	<b>99.7±0.2</b>	<b>99.7±0.2</b>
	CFP-FF	99.0±0.3	51.5±1.8	99.5±0.3	<b>99.7±0.2</b>
	CFP-FP	94.9±1.1	49.4±2.0	95.4±0.8	<b>97.0±0.5</b>
	AgeDB-30	95.7±1.0	49.5±0.7	95.5±1.1	<b>96.3±1.1</b>
	CALFW	95.0±1.0	50.6±0.7	94.9±1.0	<b>95.5±1.0</b>
	CPLFW	91.3±1.2	50.3±1.2	91.3±1.2	<b>91.7±1.0</b>

Table 3: Detailed same-resolution 1:1 verification accuracy (mean±std over 5 trails) per-benchmark.

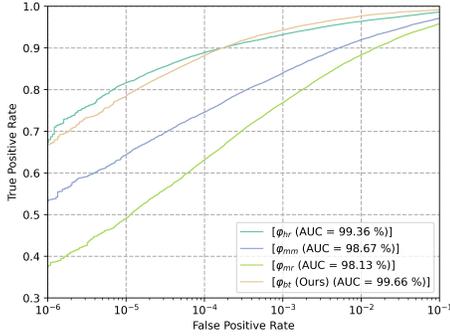
		$\varphi_{hr}$	$\varphi_{mm}$	$\varphi_{mr}$	$\varphi_{bt}$ (Ours)
7&7	LFW	70.8±2.9	74.0±1.5	72.5±1.8	<b>92.7±1.2</b>
	CFP-FF	67.4±2.3	69.4±1.7	67.7±1.4	<b>86.1±1.5</b>
	CFP-FP	57.1±2.3	59.1±2.3	56.5±1.3	<b>73.8±1.4</b>
	AgeDB-30	54.3±1.9	54.2±2.2	53.5±1.8	<b>62.5±2.2</b>
	CALFW	58.2±1.0	60.1±1.3	59.2±2.1	<b>76.0±1.5</b>
	CPLFW	56.4±1.7	58.6±1.2	56.7±1.1	<b>75.6±1.5</b>
14&14	LFW	87.9±0.9	93.4±1.2	94.8±0.9	<b>98.5±0.5</b>
	CFP-FF	79.0±2.2	84.7±1.6	86.7±1.6	<b>96.2±0.7</b>
	CFP-FP	68.2±1.5	73.7±2.0	78.0±1.5	<b>89.0±1.0</b>
	AgeDB-30	64.1±1.7	64.2±2.4	65.9±2.3	<b>84.2±1.6</b>
	CALFW	71.8±0.9	75.6±1.3	77.5±1.4	<b>89.9±0.7</b>
	CPLFW	72.3±1.6	76.4±1.8	79.0±1.7	<b>87.6±1.9</b>
28&28	LFW	99.1±0.4	99.6±0.6	99.6±0.3	<b>99.8±0.3</b>
	CFP-FF	97.2±0.7	98.4±0.7	99.1±0.4	<b>99.4±0.3</b>
	CFP-FP	91.9±1.3	93.5±1.3	95.0±1.0	<b>96.8±0.9</b>
	AgeDB-30	90.9±1.2	92.6±0.8	92.4±1.0	<b>94.9±1.1</b>
	CALFW	92.9±1.3	93.4±0.9	93.9±1.3	<b>95.0±0.9</b>
	CPLFW	89.5±1.3	90.6±1.2	90.7±1.3	<b>91.7±0.9</b>
112&112	LFW	<b>99.8±0.2</b>	<b>99.8±0.2</b>	<b>99.8±0.2</b>	<b>99.8±0.2</b>
	CFP-FF	<b>99.9±0.1</b>	<b>99.9±0.1</b>	99.8±0.2	99.8±0.2
	CFP-FP	<b>98.9±0.3</b>	<b>98.9±0.3</b>	98.1±0.4	98.1±0.4
	AgeDB-30	<b>98.4±0.7</b>	<b>98.4±0.7</b>	97.2±0.8	97.2±0.8
	CALFW	<b>96.0±1.2</b>	<b>96.0±1.2</b>	95.9±1.0	95.9±1.0
	CPLFW	<b>93.1±1.3</b>	<b>93.1±1.3</b>	92.7±1.0	92.7±1.0

Table 4: 1:1 verification TAR at different FAR on the IJB-C dataset for cross-resolution feature aggregation.

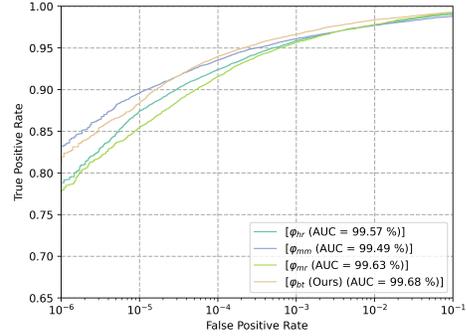
	112&7							112&14					112&28			
FAR	10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-6</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-1</sup>	
$\varphi_{hr}$	<b>67.99</b>	<b>81.65</b>	93.18	96.38	98.65	78.83	87.44	95.86	97.79	99.05	<b>88.87</b>	<b>92.56</b>	97.19	98.33	99.06	
$\varphi_{mm}$	53.57	64.34	84.01	91.96	97.12	<b>83.22</b>	<b>89.56</b>	96.10	97.71	98.82	86.84	92.33	97.16	98.10	99.01	
$\varphi_{mr}$	37.83	49.12	76.80	88.32	95.79	77.97	85.46	95.64	97.79	99.21	85.55	91.86	97.25	98.46	99.19	
$\varphi_{bt}$ (Ours)	66.84	78.40	<b>94.27</b>	<b>97.63</b>	<b>99.16</b>	81.92	88.38	<b>96.64</b>	<b>98.34</b>	<b>99.28</b>	86.61	92.48	<b>97.38</b>	<b>98.47</b>	<b>99.20</b>	

Table 5: 1:1 verification TAR at different FAR on the IJB-C dataset for same-resolution feature aggregation.

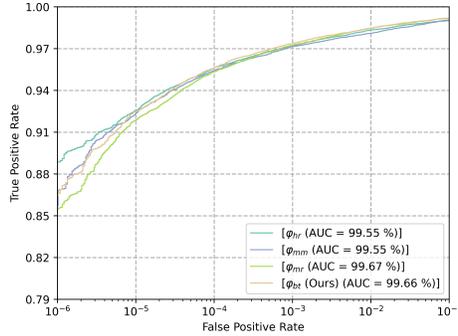
	7&7					14&14					28&28					112&112				
FAR	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-5}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$
$\varphi_{hr}$	0.69	1.73	12.58	27.63	56.81	9.82	20.38	52.57	72.61	90.30	75.67	83.24	94.21	97.15	98.74	<b>89.58</b>	<b>94.51</b>	<b>97.57</b>	98.40	99.06
$\varphi_{mm}$	0.68	1.73	11.93	27.48	56.84	7.59	15.61	48.28	71.13	91.04	73.68	85.14	95.82	97.65	98.89	<b>89.58</b>	<b>94.51</b>	<b>97.57</b>	98.40	99.06
$\varphi_{mr}$	0.74	1.76	11.11	25.98	54.26	14.21	24.72	60.39	79.84	94.35	78.91	86.42	96.04	98.07	99.09	88.48	93.37	97.50	<b>98.51</b>	<b>99.23</b>
$\varphi_{bt}$ (Ours)	<b>12.09</b>	<b>20.70</b>	<b>57.17</b>	<b>79.02</b>	<b>93.90</b>	<b>57.75</b>	<b>70.63</b>	<b>90.85</b>	<b>96.06</b>	<b>98.68</b>	<b>82.85</b>	<b>90.32</b>	<b>96.94</b>	<b>98.31</b>	<b>99.15</b>	88.48	93.37	97.50	<b>98.51</b>	<b>99.23</b>



(a) 112&7



(b) 112&14



(c) 112&28

Figure 4: 1:1 verification ROC Curve on the IJB-C dataset for cross-resolution feature aggregation.

Table 6: 1: N identification TPIR(%@FPIR=0.01), Top-1, Top-5, Top-10 accuracy on the IJB-C dataset for cross-resolution feature aggregation.

	112&7				112&14				112&28			
	TPIR	Top-1	Top-5	Top-10	TPIR	Top-1	Top-5	Top-10	TPIR	Top-1	Top-5	Top-10
$\varphi_{hr}$	<b>75.35</b>	<b>92.76</b>	<b>95.14</b>	<b>95.92</b>	81.98	93.89	96.25	96.98	<b>90.42</b>	96.05	<b>97.47</b>	97.80
$\varphi_{mm}$	59.07	88.89	92.33	93.35	<b>86.39</b>	<b>95.15</b>	<b>96.86</b>	97.31	90.04	96.00	97.31	97.72
$\varphi_{mr}$	43.89	82.29	87.74	89.42	82.18	93.87	96.20	96.89	88.90	95.93	97.36	97.84
$\varphi_{bt}$ (Ours)	73.40	91.30	94.86	95.88	84.78	94.78	96.84	<b>97.41</b>	89.84	<b>96.16</b>	97.46	<b>97.90</b>

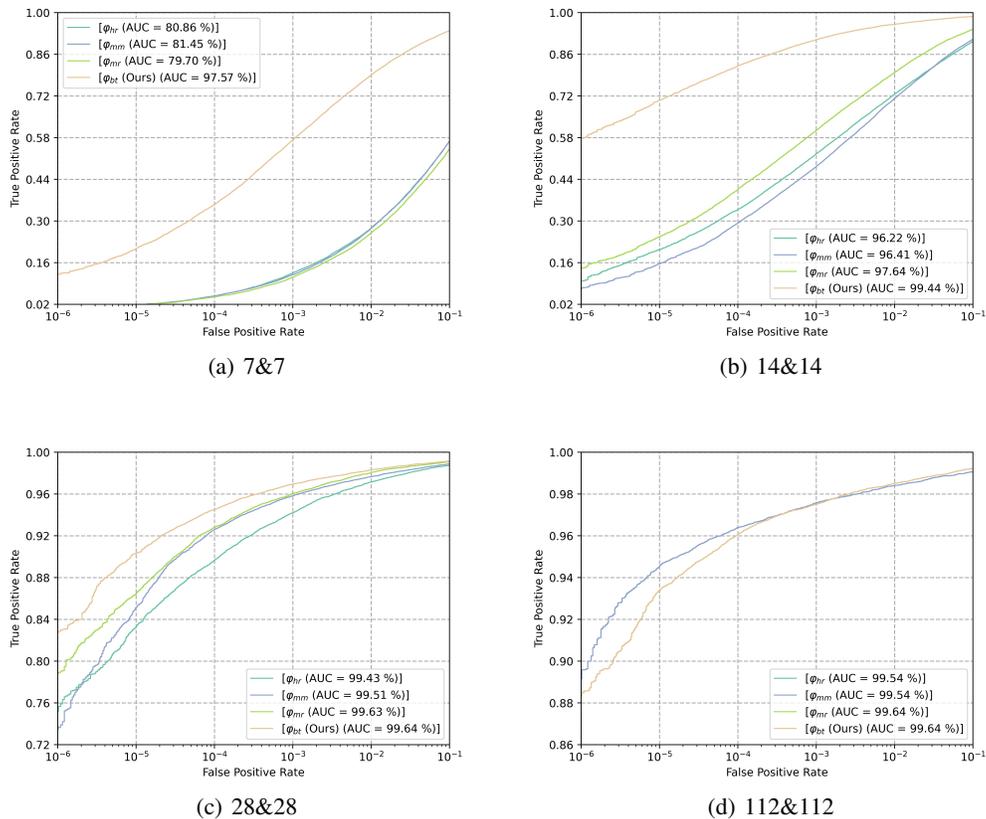


Figure 5: 1:1 verification ROC Curve on the IJB-C dataset for same-resolution feature aggregation.

Table 7: 1: N identification TPIR(%@FPIR=0.01), Top-1, Top-5, Top-10 accuracy on the IJB-C dataset for same-resolution feature aggregation.

	7&7				14&14				28&28				112&112			
	TPIR	Top-1	Top-5	Top-10												
$\varphi_{hr}$	1.20	11.77	19.95	24.28	15.16	50.96	63.62	68.68	77.52	91.62	94.95	95.99	<b>92.66</b>	<b>96.58</b>	<b>97.71</b>	97.94
$\varphi_{mm}$	1.24	20.38	30.23	34.83	11.62	62.08	72.33	76.33	79.31	93.87	96.09	96.81	<b>92.66</b>	<b>96.58</b>	<b>97.71</b>	97.94
$\varphi_{mr}$	1.36	17.41	26.53	31.03	23.72	68.64	78.38	81.99	83.82	94.53	96.67	97.33	90.89	96.44	97.65	<b>98.00</b>
$\varphi_{bt}(\text{Ours})$	<b>15.55</b>	<b>55.49</b>	<b>67.98</b>	<b>73.05</b>	<b>63.69</b>	<b>86.35</b>	<b>92.14</b>	<b>94.01</b>	<b>86.87</b>	<b>95.42</b>	<b>97.06</b>	<b>97.62</b>	90.89	96.44	97.65	<b>98.00</b>

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