

Digital Image Detective: Using Forensic Analysis to Identify Image Source

Christine McKay

Advised By: Ashwin Swaminathan, Hongmei Gou, Dr. Min Wu

MERIT Program, Electrical and Computer Engineering Department University of Maryland, College Park



Multimedia Forensics

Where Sherlock Holmes meets Signal Processing

- Image Source Forensics
 - How was the image created? Camera, scanner, cell phone camera or via computer graphics
 - What type of device captured the image?
- Device Model Identification
 - What model of camera, cell phone camera, or scanner captured the image?
- Forgery detection
 - Is the image tampered? or manipulated after capture?



Image Tampering







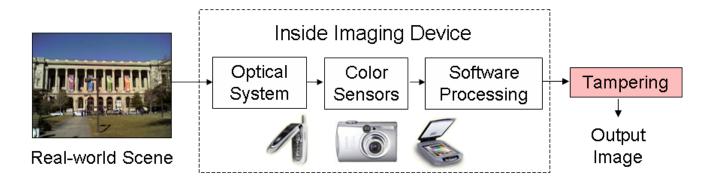


Source: Federal Computer Week, 1998



Non-Intrusive Forensics

- Identify distinguishing features of an image acquisition device using its output data alone
- Image acquisition process



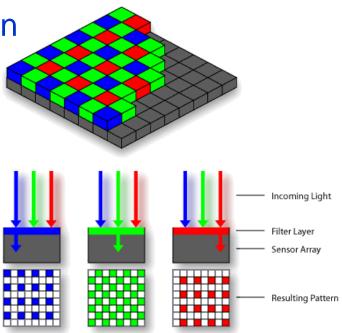
□ Find and exploit differences in optical system, sensors, and software among devices using sample images



Features for Forensic Analysis

Color Filter Arrays and Interpolation

- Scanners detect all three colors at each pixel
- Cameras only detect one color at each pixel
 - Remaining two colors estimated using interpolation algorithms



□ Noise

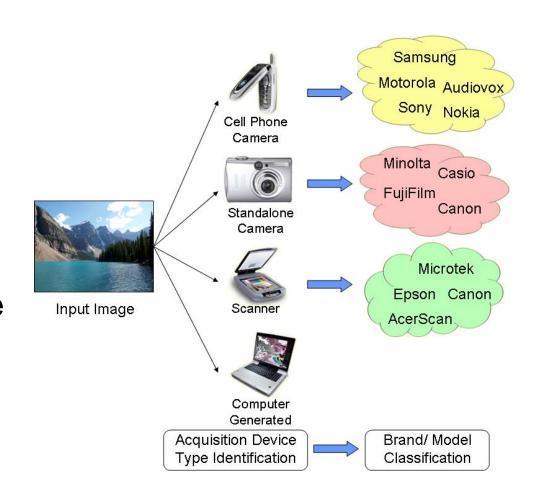
- Inherent in any electronic device
- Measure variations in pixel values under no light or constant light



Forensic Methodology and Roadmap

 Estimate interpolation coefficients and noise features for each device using random sample images

 Use these data to create a model to identify the source of an unknown image





Demo

