

# Improving the generalization of face forgery detection via single domain augmentation

Wenlong Li<sup>1,2</sup> · Chunhui Feng<sup>1,2</sup> · Lifang Wei<sup>1,2</sup> · Dawei Wu<sup>1,2</sup>

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# Abstract

In recent years, significant progress has been made in the field of face forgery and face forgery detection. However, the performance of the detection methods in the unknown environment is far beyond satisfactory due to the feature distribution deviation of different fake face generators. In this paper, we adopt the domain generalization theory to improve the generality of fake face detection. The utilized method augments the original image samples by introducing gradient noise yielded during back-propagation, simulating the forgery features in unknown domains. In the construction of the detection network, we propose a multi-scale synthetic artifact trace tracker (MSATT) to enhance the manipulation traces through multi-scale content suppression. Meanwhile, we observed that the synthesized images present a noticeable color abnormality after going through the proposed MSATT module. Therefore, we designed a color difference perception network (CDPNet) to capture this unique feature. Experimental results demonstrate that both the domain augmentation and the proposed CDPNet can effectively improve the performance of the detection network. The proposed method is competitive with the state-of-the-art face forgery detection methods on both intra-and inter-dataset evaluations.

**Keywords** Face forgery detection  $\cdot$  Domain generalization  $\cdot$  Multi-scale synthetic artifact  $\cdot$  Color-difference feature

# **1** Introduction

The highly realistic fake human faces in digital images or videos synthesized by machinelearning systems (deepfakes) have caused broad concerns. Abuse of these generated faces poses considerable threats to social security, such as fake news and video scams. Therefore,

Chunhui Feng fengchunhui@fafu.edu.cn

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> College of Computer and Information Sciences, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Fuzhou 350002, China

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Center for Agroforestry Mega Data Science, School of Future Technology, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Fuzhou 350002, China

it is urgent to develop effective detection techniques to ensure the credibility of multimedia information.

Significant achievements have been made in the field of face forgery detection in recent years. Some of these methods [1-5] were designed based on Convolution Neural Networks (CNN). Afchar et al. [1] used CNN to extract mesoscopic features for face forgery detection. Masi et al. [2] proposed a two-branch network structure. One branch propagates the original information, while the other branch suppresses the face content yet amplifies multi-band frequencies using a Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG) as a bottleneck layer. Nguyen et al.[3] adopted a novel capsule network for detecting forged images and videos. Liu et al. [4] combined spatial image and phase spectrum to capture the up-sampling artifacts of face forgery to improve the transferability for face forgery detection. Zhou et al. [6] proposed a two-stream network structure. One stream to detect tampering artifacts for classification. The other stream trains a patch-based triplet network to leverage features capturing local noise residuals and camera characteristics as a second stream. Zhao et al. [6] defined face forgery detection as a fine-grained classification task for the first time and proposed a multiattentional deepfake detection network. Guo et al. [7] suppressed the content features to make the model pay more attention to the artifact regions. Kohli et al. [8] proposed a light weight 3DCNN for face forgery detection to increase efficiency. What's more, Kohli et al. [9] is used for facial forgery detection by searching for operational traces in the frequency. These methods can reach high accuracy on hold-out test sets, but their performance usually drops significantly on unseen domains.

A pressing need for deepfake forensics is improving the detectors' generality. In this paper, we incorporate the domain generalization theory to address this issue. To the best of our knowledge, the application of domain generalization theory in face forgery detection has yet to be fully discussed. Few works use domain generalization theory in deepfake detection. For example, the authors of [10] enrich the diversity of fake samples by giving a pool of the forgery configuration. In contrast, our method improves the generality of the detection model by introducing adaptive gradient noise to the training data. The additional gradient noise is generated during backpropagation, which effectively uses the information learned by the network itself. It is worth noting that the training phase only uses forged samples from a single domain (single domain refers to the feature space of samples generated using a single forgery method) and training in a single domain is challenging. Since the enhanced domain is generated under the premise that the worst-case scenario is satisfied, it will be constrained by semantic consistency [11], resulting in poor domain transmission, we adopt semantic constraints relaxing module used to relax semantics constraints during domain augmentation.

The statistically based deepfake artifacts usually exist in the form of subtle traces, which may be obscured by the media content. Accordingly, we design an MSATT module to suppress content features and enhance subtle manipulation traces in a multi-scale fashion. Furthermore, we observed that there exists color difference in images before and after the MSATT preprocessing, and the color difference is significantly more evident in the synthesized samples than in the real samples. In light of this phenomenon, we propose a CDPNet to capture this color-based feature to enhance the discriminability of the detection method.

The key contributions of this paper are threefold as below:

 We introduce the domain augmentation theory into fake face detections. A domain augmentation module automatically simulates the unknown feature domains through perturbations on the source domain, therefore enhancing the generality of the detection model.

- 2. We design an MSATT module to extract robust face forgery traces. This module enhances the subtle forgery traces by employing multi-scale feature fusion as well as content feature suppression.
- 3. We propose a novel color-difference feature for fake face detection. We observe that the MSATT also reveals a distinct color-behavior difference between the original and the synthesized images. We construct a CDPNet to capture this unique feature.

# 2 Proposed method

In this section, we introduce the proposed method in detail. We first give the overall of the proposed method in Section 2.1. Section 2.2 introduce the task module, which includes the MSATT and the CDPNet. Then, the domain augmentation strategy will be discussed in Section 2.3.

#### 2.1 Overview

The overall architecture of the proposed method is shown in Fig. 1.

The framework mainly includes a task module and a domain augmentation module. In the task module, the RGB images to be tested are sent to the MSATT to capture the enhanced forgery traces. In addition, the high-frequency images are extracted from the RGB sequence using the SRM filter [12] to explore the noise information. We proposed a CDPNet to deal with the MSATT exposed color abnormality feature. Following are the backbone layers and a binary classifier. The domain augmentation module (DA) uses the method in [13] to enhance the source domain by simulating the distributions in the unknown environment under the worst-case constraint [11]:

$$\min_{\theta} \sup_{T:D(S,T) \le \delta} \mathbf{E}[L_{task}(\theta;T)]$$
(1)

Where *D* is the similarity measurement between the original domain and the generalized target domain, and  $\delta$  represents the largest domain boundary between Source Domain(*S*) and Target Domain(*T*).  $\theta$  is a parameter optimized according to the objective function *L* of a specific task. In addition, we maximize domain transmission capacity with training with the assistance of the SCR module. The SCR module is a Wasserstein Auto-Encoders (WAEs) [14], which is used to relax the semantics constraints to generate more challenging samples. It is worth noting that the input images of the task module come from *S* and *S*<sup>+</sup>. *S*<sup>+</sup> means the enhanced domain generated by the domain augmentation module.

#### 2.2 Task module

The task module extracts discriminative forgery features as well as trains a classifier. In each iteration, the samples from the original and enhancement domains are fed into the SRM filter and the MSATT module. The following backbone layers and the CDPNet extract discriminative features to train a classifier.

**The pre-processing stage** The task module starts with a two-branched pre-processing. The first branch adopts the SRM filter to extract the noise features. The other branch is the MSATT. In this paper, we mainly utilize the low-level statistical-based deepfake features to expose fake face forgery. According to [7], CNNs are more inclined to extract content representations



Fig. 1 The architecture of the proposed method

due to their relatively fixed structures. Moreover, the statistically based deepfake traces are often fragile and could be easily diminished. Therefore, we propose the MSATT to enhance the delicate forgery traces while suppressing the content features.

The MSATT is divided into three stages. In the first stage, a convolution operation Conv(\*) is used to calculate a feature map  $F_1$ :

$$F_1 = Conv(\theta_1, x) \tag{2}$$

Where  $\theta_1$  denotes the parameters of the convolution layers in the first stage.  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{W \times H \times C}$  denotes the input tensor. *W* denotes the height, *H* denotes the width, and *C* denotes the number of tensor channels.

The manipulation traces extracted using only one layer are fragile and could easily disappear in subsequent convolutions. Therefore in the second stage, a multi-scale convolution module is used to calculate multi-level feature maps  $F_2$  from different perception fields.

$$F_2 = Conv_{<1\times1>}(\theta_2, F_1) + Conv_{<3\times3>}(\theta_2, F_1) + Conv_{<5\times5>}(\theta_2, F_1)$$
(3)

Where  $\theta_2$  denotes the parameters of multi-scale convolution layers in the second stage. < \* > indicates the different size of the convolution layer' filter.

In the third stage of the MSATT module, we subtract the input tensor x from  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , respectively, to suppress the content representations while exposing the subtle manipulation traces. For further exposing as many discriminative cues for face forgery detection, we use a convolution layer in the third stage to perform convolution on the output  $F_2$  of the second stage to fully utilize the remaining information. Meanwhile, we add the output of the high-frequency branch Q to get the final output tensor x' of the pre-processing stage:

$$x' = (F_1 - x) + (F_2 - x) + Q + Conv(\theta_3, F_2)$$
(4)

where  $\theta_3$  denotes the convolutional parameters of the third stage that preserves the additional discriminative information.

Then we use the backbone layers to obtain discriminative features and train a classifier. We use the cross-entropy loss function for the classification task:

$$L_{cls}(y, \hat{y}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} -[y_i \cdot log(\hat{y}_i) + (1 - y_i) \cdot log(1 - \hat{y}_i)]$$
(5)

where  $\hat{y}_i$  is the softmax output of the task model, y denotes the label, and N is the number of inputs.

**Color difference perception network (CDPNet)** After extensive observations, we found that the output image of MSATT often has an overall hue difference compared to the input image. The hue difference is more significant and stable in synthesized images than in pristine images. We speculate that this phenomenon stems from the inherent color distribution abnormalities present in deepfake images and videos. However, these abnormalities are often subtle and imperceptible to the human eye. After the MSATT module, the deepfake anomalies are amplified, making such hue differences apparent. We illustrate this phenomenon in Fig. 2.

Motivated by this observation, we designed a CDPNet to capture the color-based feature. We first use (6) to measure the color difference in the image before and after the MSATT pre-processing.

$$Diff_{(1,2)} = \sqrt{(I_{1,R} - I_{2,R})^2 + (I_{1,G} - I_{2,G})^2 + (I_{1,B} - I_{2,B})^2}$$
(6)

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$\begin{array}{cccc} layer1 & Conv(3, 64, 7, 2) & 128 \times 128 \times \\ layer2 & Max Pool2d(64, 64, 3, 2) & 64 \times 64 \times 6 \\ layer3 & Conv(64, 64, 1, 1) & 64 \times 64 \times 6 \\ layer4 & Conv(64, 64, 3, 1) & 64 \times 64 \times 6 \end{array}$	
$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	64
$\begin{array}{llllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	4
$layer4 \qquad Conv(64, 64, 3, 1) \qquad \qquad 64 \times 64 \times 6$	4
	4
$layer5 \qquad Conv(64, 128, 1, 1) \qquad \qquad 64 \times 64 \times 1$	28
$layer6 \qquad Conv(128, 128, 3, 2) \qquad \qquad 32 \times 32 \times 1$	28
<i>layer</i> 7 $Max Pool2d(128, 128, 3, 2)$ $16 \times 16 \times 1$	28
<i>layer</i> 8 $Conv(128, 128, 1, 1)$ $16 \times 16 \times 1$	28
<i>layer</i> 9 $Conv(128, 128, 3, 1)$ $16 \times 16 \times 1$	28
<i>layer</i> 10 $Conv(128, 256, 1, 1)$ $16 \times 16 \times 2$	56
<i>layer</i> 11 $Conv(256, 256, 3, 1)$ $16 \times 16 \times 2$	56
$layer 12 \qquad Max Pool2d (256, 256, 3, 2) \qquad 8 \times 8 \times 256$	
$layer 13 \qquad Conv(256, 2048, 1, 1) \qquad 8 \times 8 \times 204$	3

where  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  represent the pixel value matrix of the input and output images of the MSATT module, respectively. R, G and B represent three color channels. After obtaining the colordifference measurement Diff, we fed it into the self-designed CDPNet. We only designed a few layers of convolutional structure and combined it with the short connections of ResNet to obtain more robust features. The structure of the CDPNet is listed in Table 1.

#### 2.3 Domain augmentation

The purpose of domain augmentation is to make the detection model learn features from unknown distributions. The concept is shown in Fig. 3.

The domain augmentation simulates cross-domain distributions by adding gradient noise to the source domain. Due to the unpredictable nature of the noise signal, the augmentation expands in near-random directions based on the source domain. According to our observations and understanding of Deepfake datasets, we have found that the feature spaces of different



Fig. 3 The output images of MSATT. The first and third rows are the input pristine images and the forgery images respectively. The second and fourth rows are the images that expose the artifact trace after MSATT pre-processing

Deepfake datasets tend to cluster together. Therefore, despite the random nature of the domain augmentation, it still has the ability to extend to adjacent unknown domains.

We hope that the distribution of the enhancement domain should deviate from the source domain as much as possible to simulate a broader distribution of the unknown environment. This paper implements domain augmentation by satisfying the worst-case scenario under the constraint of ensuring semantic consistency, but the constraint of semantic consistency will limit the transmission capacity (the expansion capability from the source domain to the target domain), shown in Fig. 3(b), red spots generated from blue spots will be limited to a certain range. So we alleviate the constraints of semantic consistency while keeping it across the line between real and fake.

To achieve this goal, we exploit a specific domain augmentation strategy that simulates the unknown domain by introducing gradient noise into the source domain. The samples that need to be enhanced are considered as part of the trainable parameters of the task model and then use objective function  $L_{total}$  to calculate the gradients of the input layer to update the input samples, similar to the network's backpropagation process.  $L_{total}$  is the total loss required for the sample enhancement stage, as shown in (7).

$$L_{total} = L_{cls}(\theta; x) - \alpha L_{const}(\theta; z) + \beta L_{relax}(\varphi; x)$$
(7)

 $L_{total}$  consists of three losses:  $L_{cls}$ ,  $L_{const}$ , and  $L_{relax}$ .  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are hyperparameters to balance  $L_{const}$  and  $L_{relax}$ . We will detail these losses in the following.

 $L_{cls}$  is the classification loss defined in (5), it is the optimization function in the worst-case scenario.

 $L_{const}$  is used to maximize the difference between the source domain and the target domain while satisfying semantic consistency. Ensure that high-level semantic features are related to class labels. The definition is as follows:

$$L_{const} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \|z_{i} - z_{i}^{+}\|_{2}^{2} + \infty \cdot 1\{y \neq y^{+}\}$$
(8)

where  $z^+$  represents the discriminative features extracted from enhanced samples. 1• indicate 0-1 indicator function and it will be  $\infty$  if the class label of  $x^+$  is different from x.  $L_{const}$  can

Layers	Layer Description	Output Size	
Encoder			
layer1	<i>Conv</i> (3, 32, 3, 2)	$128 \times 128 \times 32$	
layer2	$2 \times Conv(32, 64, 3, 2)$	$32 \times 32 \times 64$	
layer3	$2 \times Conv(64, 128, 3, 2)$	$8 \times 8 \times 128$	
layer4	$2 \times Conv(128, 256, 3, 2)$	$4 \times 4 \times 256$	
layer5	Conv(256, 512, 3, 2)	$2 \times 2 \times 512$	
Decoder			
layer1	$2 \times ConvTranspose(512, 256, 3, 2)$	$8 \times 8 \times 256$	
layer2	$2 \times ConvTranspose(256, 128, 3, 2)$	$32 \times 32 \times 128$	
layer3	$2 \times ConvTranspose(128, 64, 3, 2)$	$128 \times 128 \times 64$	
layer4	<i>ConvTranspose</i> (64, 32, 3, 2)	$256 \times 256 \times 32$	
layer5	ConvTranspose(32, 3, 3, 1)	$256 \times 256 \times 3$	

 Table 2
 The description of encoder and decoder

achieve a certain degree of out-of-domain generalization in the embedded space, but its out-of-domain transmission ability is limited due to semantic consistency constraints. In order to enhance the transmission capability outside the domain and increase the diversity of samples, we adopted  $L_{relax}$  to alleviate the constraint of semantic consistency which is defined as follows.

 $L_{relax}$  is for mitigating constraints on semantic consistency by limiting the encoding capabilities of WAEs which are defined in (9).

$$L_{relax} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \left\| X_{i}^{+} - D(E(X_{i}^{+})) \right\|_{2}^{2}$$
(9)

Where *E* and *D* represent the Encoder and Decoder, respectively. In this paper, we use WAEs [14] to implement  $L_{relax}$ . By limiting the encoding ability of WAE, the reconstruction error increases, and more disturbances are generated to enhance the domain transmission capability. The structure of the encoder and decoder is described in Table 2. The encoder and decoder need to be trained in advance to better capture the distribution of the source domain. Then limit the encoding ability of WAEs to maximize the difference between the enhancement domain and the source domain.

Algorithm 1 The proposed method for training strategy.

**Require:** source domain S, pretrained WAEs V on S; the number of iterations; the number of training batches N; the number of evaluate batches M; the conditional of domain augmentation T

```
Ensure: task module parameter \theta
```

```
1: for t = 1 \rightarrow iterations do
```

```
2:
      if t \mod T == 0 then
          generate S_t^+ from S_{t-1} using (10)
3:
          retrain V with S_t^+
4:
          for i = 1 \rightarrow N do
5:
             training task module with S_t = S_t^+ \cup S_{t-1}
6.
7:
             update task module parameter \theta
8:
          end for
9.
          for i = 1 \rightarrow M do
10:
              evaluate task module with S_t
11.
          end for
12.
       else
13:
           for i = 1 \rightarrow N do
14:
              training task module with S_{t-1}
15:
              update task module parameter \theta
16:
           end for
17:
           for i = 1 \rightarrow M do
18.
              evaluate task module with S_{t-1}
19:
           end for
20:
       end if
21: end for
```

After obtaining the objective function  $L_{total}$  that needs to be optimized, we can use the iterative method to perturb the original sample along the direction of gradient change to generate more samples  $x^+$ :

$$x_{t+1}^+ \leftarrow x_t^+ + \zeta \nabla_{x_t^+} L_{total}(\theta, \varphi; x_t^+, z_t^+)$$
(10)

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where  $\zeta$  represents the scale factor.  $\theta$  and  $\varphi$  represent the convolutional layers' parameters of the task module and SCR module respectively. Our main idea is to add disturbance to the sample to obtain new ones. The feature vector z is obtained from the samples in the source domain through the task model. In order to make the difference between z and the feature vector  $z^+$  of the samples corresponding to the augment domain larger, we augment the samples along the gradient change direction in the back propagation process through adaptive learning. In simple terms, we update the input samples in a way similar to the network parameter update. It is also worth noting that during the non-data augmentation training phase, we only use  $L_{cls}$  for optimization of the parameters  $\theta$  of the task module:

$$\hat{\theta} \leftarrow \theta - \eta \nabla_{\theta} L_{cls}(\theta; S \cup S^+) \tag{11}$$

Where  $\eta$  is the learning rate. Training task module on the original and enhanced domains to achieve better generalization performance.

Our work mainly includes the following two points. First, in order to better capture manipulation traces, MSATT is used to suppress content features to expose manipulation traces. Second, simulate the distribution outside the domain through the domain enhancement strategy. Using  $L_{const}$  and  $L_{relax}$  to maximize the expansion outside the domain by relaxing the constraints of semantic consistency. Our method implementation is summarized in Algorithm 1.

# **3 Experiment**

In this section, we conduct several experiments to verify the effectiveness of the proposed method. Section 3.1 provides the details of the experimental setup. Section 3.2 reports the ablation experiment. Section 3.3 provides visualization of the generalization of our method. Section 3.4 reports the experimental results with recent works. Section 3.5 verifies the model generalization performance.

#### 3.1 Experimental setup

**Datasets** We performed experiments on several of the most popular deepfake datasets: **Face-Forensics++** (**FF++**) [15], **Celeb-DF** [16], **Deepfake Detection Challenge** (**DFDC**) [17] and **FaceShifter** [18]. The FF++ contains four forgery patterns: **DeepFake** (**DF**) [19], **Face2Face** (**F2F**) [20], **FaceSwap** (**FS**) [21], and **NeuralTexture** (**NT**) [22]. A total of 4,000 forged videos were generated based on 1,000 pristine videos. In addition, according to different compression rates, FF++ also provides three different levels of compressed video: pristine quality (raw), high quality (HQ), and low quality (LQ). In this paper, We regard **DeepFake**, **Face2Face**, **FaceSwap**, and **NeuralTexture** as four datasets. Note that we divide the dataset according to the official ratio of 720:140:140. **Celeb-DF** [16] is another widely used deep forged dataset. It improves the visual quality of the video samples and is more challenging for face forgery detection tasks. **DeepFake Detection Challenge** (**DFDC**) [17] is another more challenging dataset which contains 1,000 pristine videos and over 4,000 fake videos manipulated by multiple DeepFake, GAN-based and non-learned methods. **FaceShifter** [18] is a more challenging face forgery detection that is not only considerably more perceptually appealing, but also better identity preserving in comparison.

**Metrics** The metrics in our experiments are Accuracy (ACC) and Aera under the curve (AUC), which are most commonly used for evaluating face forgery detection methods.

**Implementation details** The backbone of the proposed architecture is the Xception [23] which is pre-trained on imagenet. We use MTCNN [24] to exact the face areas, and align and resize them to  $256 \times 256$  pixels. The hyper-parameter used in (7) are  $\alpha = 0.0001$  and  $\beta = 1e9$ . We set the batch size to 32, and use the Adam optimizer. The learning rate of the task module and WAE is set to 0.00002 and 0.0005, respectively. Our experiments run on an NVIDIA GTX GeForce 1080Ti GPU.

#### 3.2 Ablation study

In this section, we carry out several ablation experiments to verify the effectiveness of the proposed MSATT, CDPNet, and Data Augmentation (DA) strategy. All ablation experiments were trained on DF and tested on each of the four sub-datasets in FF++. The results are shown in Table 3. The results show that the main modules we propose can improve the detection performance on both intra- and inter-datasets. The first row is the detection results of the backbone. In the second row, we tested the efficacy of the MSATT. Compared to the backbone, the performance slightly drops on the same domain but improves on the cross-domain.

In the third row, we evaluated the CDPNet. Since there is a dependency between the CDPNet and the MSATT, we tested the two modules jointly. Compared to the backbone, it has increased by 0.23%, 1.14%, 1.40%, and 0.57% on DF, F2F, FS, and NT, respectively. We analyzed the DA strategy in the fourth row. The results on cross-domain datasets have significantly improved in comparison to the baseline, which is evident that the DA enhances the generality of the detection algorithm. In the last row, we evaluated the performance after integrating all proposed modules. It demonstrates the optimal results both within and across datasets. Compared to the backbone, it has increased by 0.59%, 3.25%, 2.13%, and 1.11% on DF, F2F, FS and NT, respectively. We can see that the improvement in the intradomain performance is not substantial, whereas there are notable improvements in cross-domain (tested on DF) has already reached 99.14%, leaving little room for significant improvement. In contrast, there is ample room for improvement in cross-domain performance demonstrates the effectiveness of domain generalization.

ID	MSATT	CDPNet	DA	DF	F2F	FS	NT
1	-	-	-	99.14	63.22	58.32	67.61
2	$\checkmark$	-	-	99.07	63.43	58.63	68.18
3	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	-	99.37	64.36	59.72	68.32
4	-	-	$\checkmark$	99.65	65.35	60.12	68.65
5	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	99.73	66.47	60.45	68.72

 
 Table 3
 Ablation study on proposed modules(AUC(%))

### 3.3 Visualization of improved generalization

The purpose of the proposed method is to improve the cross-domain generalization of the face forgery detection model.

We perturb the original samples to let the model learn more diverse representations under unknown distributions. Figure 4 demonstrates the visualization results of the feature domain augmentation. It realizes dimension reduction by using t-sne [25]. By comparing Fig.4(a) and (b), we find that the feature distributions deviate further from the centroid after adding the DA. It means that our method does expand both the real and fake data domains. By observing (c) and (d), we find that after domain generalization, the model is better able to distinguish the real and fake data in the cross-dataset evaluation, which proves the DA can expand the feature domains along the correct directions to a certain extent.

#### 3.4 In-Domain evaluation

In this section, we evaluate the in-domain performance of the proposed method. We compare our method with five SOTA deepfake forensic methods. All the methods are trained and tested



**Fig.4** The t-sne feature space visualization. Results of the first row demonstrate the feature distributions when the model is trained on F2F and tested on F2F. In the second row, the model is trained on F2F and tested on FF++. In the first and second columns, the detection model is trained without and with domain augmentation, respectively

methods	DeepFa ACC	ke AUC	Face2Fa	AUC	FaceSw ACC	AUC	Neural7 ACC	Texture AUC	Average AUC
Afchar [1]	87.27	91.03	86.32	90.76	82.43	88.62	79.96	83.86	88.57
Chollet [23]	95.13	98.85	87.34	93.62	92.42	97.08	77.54	84.51	93.12
Qian [26]	-	98.62	-	98.51	-	98.34	-	93.22	97.17
Liu [4]	93.48	98.50	86.02	94.62	92.42	98.10	76.78	80.49	92.93
Yang [27]	-	98.96	-	98.90	-	97.37	-	95.65	97.72
Ours	96.43	99.68	97.60	99.79	97.65	99.74	90.31	99.64	99.71

Table 4 Comparative analysis of detection performance with other methods in seen domain

on each of the four sub-datasets in FF++. Table 4 shows the detection results. We can see that the proposed method achieves competitive performances within the same domain. Our method's AUC metric is 0.72% higher than that of Yang et al. [27] in the DeepFake subset. Our method's AUC metric is 0.89% higher than that of Yang et al. [27] in the Face2Face. Testing on FaceSwap, our method's AUC is 1.40% higher than that of Qian et al. [26]. Similarly, Testing on NeuralTexture, our method's AUC is 3.99% higher than that of Yang et al. [27].

We show the comprehensive performance of all methods by averaging the AUC on four sub-datasets. We can see that our method is superior to other methods. Meanwhile, Fig. 5 visualize the ROC curve to show it more intuitively.



Fig. 5 (a) indicate training on DeepFake. (b) indicate training on Face2Face. (c) indicate training on FaceSwap. (d) indicate training on NeuralTexture

# 3.5 Out-of-domain evaluation

**Cross-Manipulation Evaluation** In this part, we evaluate the generalization of the proposed method to unseen manipulations. The datasets and results are shown in Table 5. For a fair comparison, the methods compared were all re-implemented so that the training sets could be kept the same. We can see that our method shows overall superior performance in comparison to the rest. Especially, on the training set F2F, our method is superior to all other methods on all the test sets. However, the proposed method does not perform adequately on the training set NT. Our analysis suggests that our method has a relatively ideal effect on the expression transfer method based on computer graphics, while the effect on deep learning expression transfer is not very satisfactory. We calculated the average AUC in the last column. Our results are respectively 1.74%, 3.53%, 4.36%, and 0.96% higher than the second-highest. We also provide histograms to intuitively demonstrate the generalization of the proposed method against the comparison methods, as in Fig. 6.

train dataset	methods	test dataset					
		DF	F2F	FS	NT	Average	
DF	Chollet [23]	99.14	63.22	58.32	67.61	72.07	
	Tan [28]	99.57	66.32	46.32	69.35	70.37	
	Afchar [1]	96.51	55.68	39.25	65.14	64.14	
	Nguyen[3]	98.37	68.34	54.83	63.34	71.22	
	Yu [29]	97.36	59.71	51.23	59.88	66.99	
	ours	99.73	66.47	60.45	68.72	73.84	
F2F	Chollet [23]	68.38	99.62	59.82	64.54	73.09	
	Tan [28]	82.44	98.72	58.14	63.71	75.75	
	Afchar [1]	65.07	92.64	60.33	64.24	70.57	
	Nguyen[3]	76.58	99.31	71.34	64.96	78.04	
	Yu [29]	71.66	96.47	61.35	60.83	72.57	
	ours	82.74	99.79	75.64	68.12	81.57	
FS	Chollet [23]	49.51	61.67	98.92	61.96	68.02	
	Tan [28]	58.69	67.32	99.12	48.61	68.43	
	Afchar [1]	61.12	62.23	93.41	62.21	69.74	
	Nguyen[3]	47.36	63.87	99.21	64.38	68.70	
	Yu [29]	56.37	65.21	98.36	52.12	68.01	
	ours	63.34	76.68	99.74	56.67	74.10	
NT	Chollet [23]	83.71	67.06	54.87	99.13	76.19	
	Tan [28]	49.45	66.59	66.72	94.82	74.39	
	Afchar [1]	67.47	61.49	54.55	82.37	66.46	
	Nguyen[3]	76.31	66.12	51.26	97.34	72.76	
	Yu [29]	59.32	59.68	51.79	92.17	75.74	
	ours	87.06	62.82	59.09	99.64	77.15	

Table 5 Cross-Manipulation Evaluation(AUC(%)) of face forgery detection

The best and second-best results are marked in bold and red respectively





**Cross-dataset evaluation** In this part, we assess the cross-dataset generalization of the proposed method. The test datasets are Celeb-DF, DFDC, and FaceShifter. We train each model on DF, F2F, FS, and NT, respectively. We compared several SOTA deep face detection methods with good generalization performance. Li et al. [30] identify authenticity by detecting mixed boundaries. Qian. et al. [26] obtained identification clues through the frequency domain. The comparison results are shown in Table 6. Analyzing the experiment data can clearly find that our method can achieve the best or second-best results. Especially the results of training on DeepFake(DF), our method achieves the best test results on Celeb-DF, DFDC, and FaceShifter. This indicates that our method performs well in terms of generalization for forgery types of DeepFake. The training results on F2F and NT show that our method has satisfactory generalization performance on Celeb-DF and FaceShifter, and can also achieve the second best performance on DFDC. The effectiveness of our method on FS is not very satisfactory, possibly due to insufficient learning of this type of forgery in our method. In addition, we also calculated the average AUC of the four different manipulation test datasets. It can be intuitively seen that our method can achieve the best result on F2F, it is 2.71%

train dataset	methods	test dataset	DEDC	FaceShifter	Average
		Celeb-DI*	DIDC	Pacesiniter	Average
DF	Chollet [23]	63.48	61.72	58.96	63.54
	Afchar [1]	61.01	58.63	58.53	59.39
	Yu [29]	54.86	60.11	61.28	58.75
	Li [30]	55.41	66.80	60.91	61.04
	Qian [26]	66.40	65.80	68.21	66.81
	ours	68.72	69.89	69.48	69.36
F2F	Chollet [23]	65.14	74.51	70.81	70.15
	Afchar [1]	50.37	69.43	58.69	59.49
	Yu [29]	56.42	71.28	61.02	62.91
	Li [30]	68.41	79.60	63.31	70.44
	Qian [26]	65.40	76.10	67.91	69.81
	ours	69.74	77.65	73.88	73.75
FS	Chollet [23]	63.71	60.51	70.81	65.01
	Afchar [1]	60.93	55.89	64.84	60.55
	Yu [29]	61.38	59.31	66.38	62.35
	Li [30]	69.71	79.23	64.61	71.18
	Qian [26]	63.61	65.10	67.91	65.54
	ours	68.95	66.52	71.68	69.05
NT	Chollet [23]	64.92	83.81	64.61	71.11
	Afchar [1]	39.86	68.27	56.47	54.86
	Yu [29]	51.62	70.15	61.75	61.17
	Li [30]	70.03	85.92	61.31	72.42
	Qian [26]	68.90	93.21	67.21	76.44
	ours	72.81	87.12	68.25	76.06

Table 6 Cross-Dataset Evaluation(AUC(%)) of face forgery detection

The best and second-best results are marked in bold and red respectively

higher than that of the second-best result method. The other three results can achieve the second-best effect.

### 4 Conclusion

In this paper, we provide a new feasible method for improving the generality of face forgery detection. We adopt the domain generalization theory to simulate the real and fake face feature distributions in the unknown environment. The employed technique introduces gradient disturbances to the source domain in an automatic fashion. We demonstrate the improved generalization through visualizations and quantitative results. Since the domain extension is uncontrollable in direction, it is actually generalizing in a nearly-random manner. In the future, we will investigate methods that can control domain augmentation under meaningful ranges.

We find that when trying to enhance the subtle manipulation traces through specifically designed CNN structures, the outputs reveal chromatic anomalies, such as hue-shifts after the proposed MSATT module. This result supports that the colors of deepfake images are actually unnatural, which will become evident with magnification. In future research, we will continue to study these hidden features, such as color features of other attributions.

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**Data Availability** The datasets generated during and analyzed during the current study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

#### Declarations

Conflict of Interests The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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