

# TOWARDS REAL-TIME FACE STYLIZATION: ONE-SHOT LEARNING WITH REGRESSION NETWORKS

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## ABSTRACT

Face stylization is a challenging task that requires the transfer of artistic or stylistic attributes while preserving the facial identity. In this work, we propose a novel framework for real-time face stylization using one-shot learning and regression networks. By leveraging the synergy between generic object tracking and regression-based feature transformation, our approach achieves high-quality stylization with minimal input—a single reference image. The method employs a regression network to learn a mapping between the source and target domains, guided by robust object tracking to ensure consistency across frames. This enables seamless stylization in dynamic scenarios, such as video applications, without requiring extensive data or retraining. Experimental results demonstrate that our framework outperforms existing methods in terms of efficiency, adaptability, and visual fidelity, making it a promising solution for real-time face stylization in both artistic and practical applications.

**Keywords:** Generic Object Tracking, Stylization Techniques, Face Transformation, Regression Networks, One shot Learning

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Face stylization, the process of transforming facial images into artistic or personalized representations, has gained significant attention in computer vision and graphics communities. It enables a wide range of applications, including augmented reality, virtual avatars, video games, and creative content generation. Traditional face stylization methods, however, often require large-scale datasets and extensive training, limiting their scalability and adaptability to new tasks. Moreover, achieving real-time performance in dynamic scenarios with varying poses, expressions, and lighting conditions remains a challenging problem. Regression networks are a class of deep learning models designed to predict continuous values or transformation parameters based on input data. Unlike classification tasks, where the objective is to assign discrete labels to input data, regression tasks involve estimating numerical outputs, making them particularly well-suited for problems that require precise and continuous predictions.

In the context of computer vision, regression networks have been widely used for tasks such as object localization, 3D pose estimation, image transformation, and geometric alignment. By learning a mapping from high-dimensional input data, such as images or feature maps, to a continuous output space, regression networks enable models to infer complex relationships and patterns that are difficult to capture with traditional methods. In the context of our work, regression networks play a crucial role in modeling the transformation parameters needed for face stylization. By learning to predict these parameters directly, our method eliminates the need for iterative optimization processes, significantly improving computational efficiency. Additionally, the adaptability of regression networks allows our framework to handle a wide range of stylization tasks, contributing to its versatility and real-time performance.

In this work, we propose a novel approach for real-time face stylization that leverages the strengths of one-shot learning and regression networks. One-shot learning allows our system to adapt to new stylization tasks with minimal data input, making it highly versatile and efficient. By employing regression networks, we model the transformation parameters required for stylization directly, eliminating the need for iterative optimization or large-scale retraining. A deep learning method known as the Super-Resolution Generative Adversarial Network (SRGAN) is used to accomplish one shot face stylization. The generation of image-to-image conversion is the responsibility of this GAN. SRGANs produce incredibly lifelike synthetic data, including text, audio, or images, by combining two neurons—a discriminator and a generator—in a competitive cooperative learning process. Input from the user, face recognition of the uploaded image, style transfer techniques, and real-time processing comprise the process. The quality of the uploaded image determines the model's accuracy, which is attained through user involvement and input image modification.

To further enhance the robustness of our method, we incorporate generic object tracking techniques. These techniques ensure accurate alignment and localization of facial features across video frames, enabling consistent stylization even in dynamic environments. The integration of one-shot learning, regression networks, and object tracking creates a lightweight and efficient framework that achieves high-quality stylization results in real time.

Our contributions are threefold:

1. We introduce a one-shot learning framework for face stylization, enabling rapid adaptation to new tasks with minimal data.
2. We propose the use of regression networks (SRGAN) to efficiently model transformation parameters for stylization.
3. We integrate generic object tracking to ensure robust performance in dynamic and real-time scenarios.

Extensive experiments demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach, showing superior performance compared to existing methods in terms of speed, generalizability, and visual fidelity. This work paves the way for advanced real-time face stylization applications, bridging the gap between efficiency and artistic flexibility.

## 2. LITERATURE STUDY

The durability and high feature extraction capacity of deep learning-based detectors allow for good performance [1]. One- and two-stage object detectors are the two most common types. In a single step, one-stage detectors regress the bounding boxes directly. The method used in YOLOv1 [2] separated the image into many cells and attempted to locate items within each one; however, this method was not effective for small objects. YOLOv1 performs poorly when it simply uses the final feature output since it can only see specific regions of the source images due to its fixed receptive field. To perform detection on many feature maps and identify faces of varying sizes, multi-scale detection was added to a single shot detector (SSD).

Using a technique that extracts features using a Haar feature descriptor with an integral picture approach and a cascaded detector, the Viola-Jones detector [3] detects objects in real time. Despite using integral pictures to speed up the process, it is still computationally costly. Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HOG), an efficient feature extractor for human detection, calculates the magnitudes and directions of oriented gradients across picture cells [4] links object pieces to determine which classes they belong to after detecting them as a deformable part-based model.

A solution to the problems with facial recognition was offered by the authors in [5]. The notable distinctions between frontal and profile faces present a substantial challenge for face recognition applications. To solve this problem, current methods either learn posture invariance or synthesize frontal faces. The authors provide a novel method to examine how rotating a face in 3D space impacts CNN deep feature generation using Lie algebra theory. According to the article, face rotation in the image space corresponds to an extra residual component in the CNN feature space, which is entirely governed by the rotation.

A facial recognition web platform was suggested by the authors in [6]. They demonstrate that the suggested platform has capabilities including real-time facial recognition for identifying criminals via a live stream camera feed and the ability to handle user and criminal information. Police personnel and administrators with higher-level access and database maintenance duties are the two user types intended for the system. Effective real-time recognition is achieved by extending and using the Haar Cascade method. The website features a live feed portion with video filters to maximize identification results and was created using the MVC framework. In-depth study of facial recognition algorithms and associated platforms, requirements specification, persona and scenario creation, stakeholder communication, heuristic evaluation, and questionnaire-based feedback gathering were all part of the development process.

In a similar vein, the authors of [7] emphasized the latest developments in 2D face identification while also pointing out that the research was limited in terms of face spoofing, poses, and lighting conditions. These restrictions are addressed with 3D facial recognition. One of the biggest obstacles, though, is building an appropriate database for 3D face recognition. In order to address this issue, the authors introduce a brand-new database named CAS-AIR-3D Face, which includes 24713 films taken by Intel RealSense SR305 of 3093 people. Pose, expression, occlusion, and distance variations are among the three modalities that are included in this database: colour, depth, and near infrared. The RealSense SR305. Pose, expression, occlusion, and distance variations are among the three modalities that are included in this database: colour, depth, and near infrared. According to the quantity of persons and sample variations, CAS-AIR-3D Face is the largest low-quality 3D face database that we are aware of.

## 3. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The technique of turning facial photographs into individualized or creative representations, or face stylization, has grown in importance in applications including digital content production, virtual avatars, and augmented reality. The following restrictions, however, make it difficult to achieve real-time performance with excellent outcomes:

1. **Data Dependency:** Traditional face stylization methods often rely on large datasets and extensive training to achieve effective results. This limits their adaptability to new styles or tasks, making them computationally expensive and time-consuming.

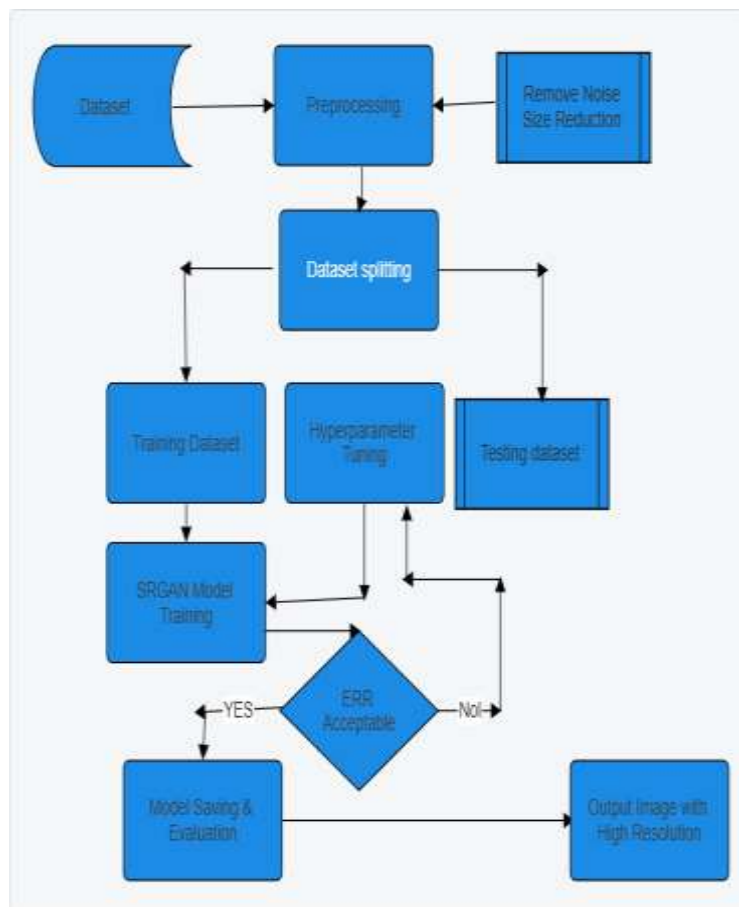
2. **Dynamic Environments:** Stylization in dynamic scenarios, where facial expressions, poses, and lighting conditions vary, demands robust and efficient methods for consistent feature alignment and localization. Many existing approaches struggle to maintain performance in such conditions.
3. **Lack of Scalability:** Methods that require retraining for each new style or task lack scalability and are unsuitable for real-time applications.
4. **Computational Overhead:** Iterative optimization techniques commonly used for stylization introduce significant computational overhead, making it difficult to achieve real-time performance.

To overcome these obstacles, a lightweight and flexible face stylization framework is required, one that can work in real time, generalize between styles with little input, and manage the intricacies of changing settings. This paper suggests a novel approach to accomplish effective, reliable, and high-quality face stylization in real-time scenarios by utilizing one-shot learning, regression networks, and generic object tracking.

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#### 4. METHODOLOGY

Creating a system that can produce creative or stylized representations of a person's face from a single input image is the goal of one-shot face stylization utilizing SRGANs (Super Resolution Generative Adversarial Networks). The main objective is to create an intuitive system that allows users to quickly apply different artistic styles to their face photos without needing a sizable dataset of linked ages. Our goal is to provide an environment where individuals may express their creativity and create unique creative representations of their pictures. This is widely used in social media filter applications. Additionally, this project should be a perfect one-shot face stylization model that can adapt well to different artistic styles and unseen faces.



**Figure1** Proposed Method

We first explain why we are taking this strategy. We are worried about the situation in which we see a single face image that appears to be artificially created, or "fake," but we don't know the method used to create it. With the help of the one-shot example, we hope to: (1) predict the target's probabilistic distribution; (2) sample from the distribution to create random images that resemble the target domain; and (3) train a classifier to recognize face images produced by the same method in the future.

#### 4.1 Dataset

Three popular benchmark datasets—Set5 [8], Set14 [9], and BSD100, the testing set for BSD300 [10]—are employed in our investigations. Every experiment uses a  $4\times$  scale factor to compare low- and high-resolution photos. This translates as an image pixel reduction of  $16\times$ . To ensure fair comparison, the data package was used to generate all stated PSNR [dB] and SSIM [11] metrics on the y-channel of center-cropped pictures, removing a 4-pixel wide strip from each border.

#### 4.2 Experiment and Results

A random sample of 350 thousand photos from the ImageNet database was used to train all networks on an NVIDIA Tesla M40 GPU [45]. The testing photographs are not the same as these images. We used a bicubic kernel with a downsampling factor of  $r = 4$  to downsample the HR images (BGR,  $C = 3$ ) in order to produce the LR images. We randomly crop  $16\ 96 \times 96$  HR subimages of different training images for every mini-batch. 105 update rounds at a learning rate of  $10^{-4}$  and an additional 105 iterations at a lower rate of  $10^{-5}$  were used to train all SRGAN variations. As in Goodfellow et al. [13], we switch between updates to the discriminator and generator networks, which is equal to  $k = 1$ . There are 16 identical ( $B = 16$ ) leftover blocks in our generator network. To get a result that solely depends on the input deterministically, we disable the batch-normalization update during test time [14].

### 5. CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

We have presented SRRes Net, a deep residual network that, when assessed using the popular PSNR metric, establishes a new state of the art on publicly available benchmark datasets. We have pointed out some of the drawbacks of this PSNR-focused image super-resolution and presented SRGAN, which trains a GAN to add an adversarial loss to the content loss function. We have verified through extensive MOS testing that SRGAN reconstructions for large upscaling factors ( $4\times$ ) are significantly more photo-realistic than reconstructions made using the most advanced reference techniques. In this paper, we presented a novel framework for real-time face stylization that combines one-shot learning, regression networks, and generic object tracking. Unlike traditional methods that rely on large datasets and extensive training, our approach demonstrates the ability to adapt to new stylization tasks with minimal input data while maintaining high-quality and consistent results. The integration of regression networks enables efficient modeling of transformation parameters, while object tracking ensures robust performance in dynamic environments with variations in pose, lighting, and expressions.

Our experimental results show that the proposed method outperforms existing approaches in terms of speed, generalizability, and visual fidelity. By achieving real-time performance, our framework opens new possibilities for interactive and personalized applications in augmented reality, virtual avatars, and creative content generation. Future work will focus on further enhancing the scalability and flexibility of the framework to support more complex and multi-modal stylization tasks. Additionally, exploring lightweight network architectures and optimization techniques will enable deployment on resource-constrained devices, expanding the practical applications of real-time face stylization. This work represents a significant step toward bridging the gap between efficiency, adaptability, and artistic quality in face stylization, providing a foundation for further advancements in the field.

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