(Mis)use of Nude Images in Research

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Context: my research

Image-based sexual abuse

Non-consensual **creation** of intimate images

Non-consensual **distribution** of intimate images

Context: this work

To collect a dataset of nude images, researchers scrape the internet

... where the content was never meant to be used for research, and probably contains non-consensually uploaded content.

Context: this work

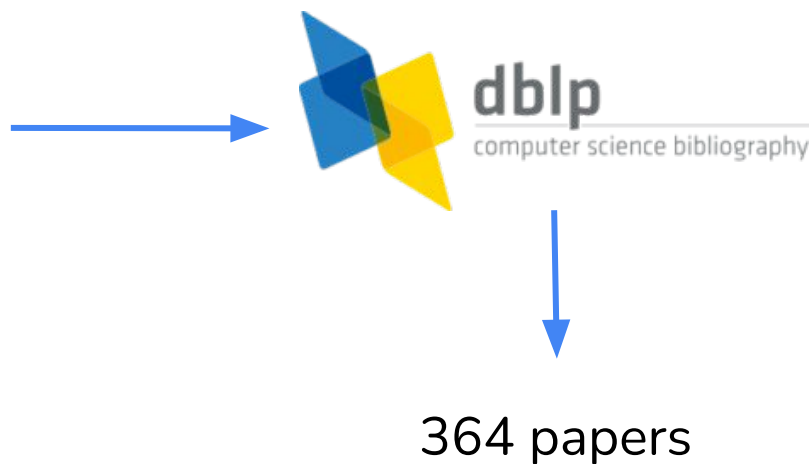To collect a dataset of nude images, researchers scrape the internet

... where the content was never meant to be used for research, and probably contains non-consensually uploaded content.

→ There is not a better solution right now.
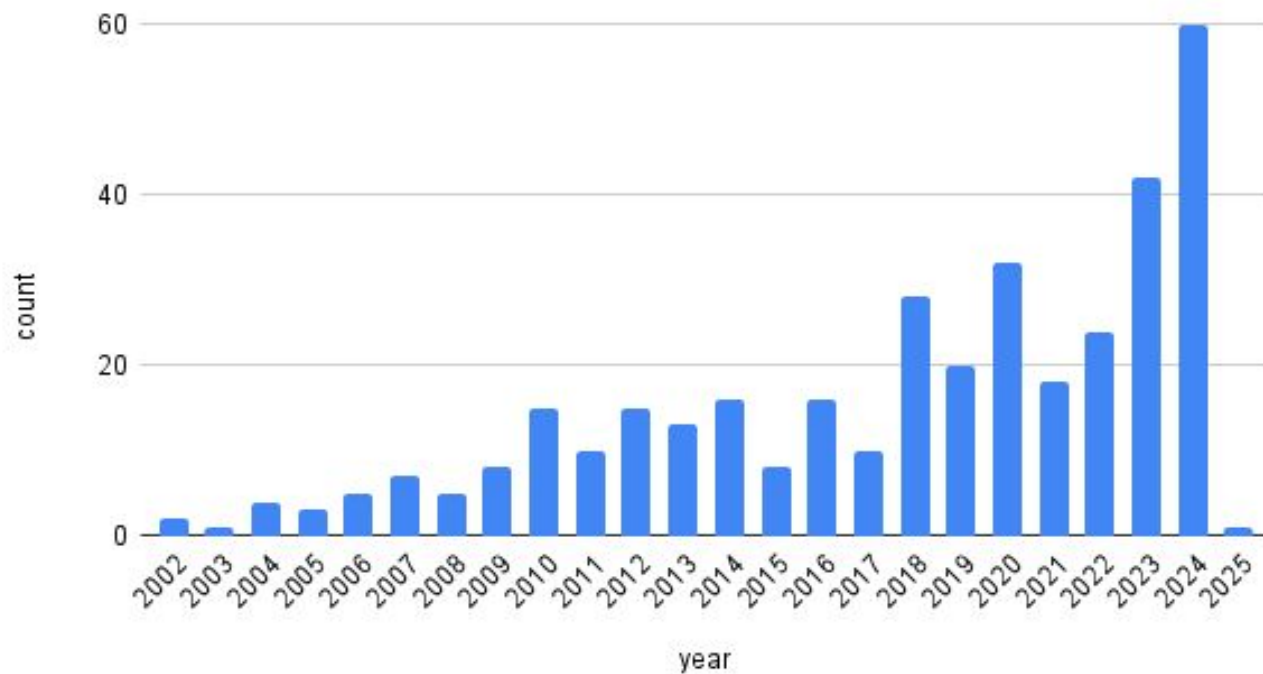But the work *can* be done more carefully.

Context: scale

keyword	# papers
"pornographic images" + "machine learning"	899
"nudity detection"	335
"pornographic image detection"	307
"adult image detection"	296
"safety filtering" + "machine learning"	135
"NudeNet"	76
total	**2048**

dblp
computer science bibliography

364 papers

Context: scale

papers per year

Ethical guidelines

Recommendations are aimed at researchers but also conference venues, many of which have codes of conduct and existing ethical guidelines.

Ethical guidelines

- Acknowledge the potential for harm

  → Papers should acknowledge that they are using sensitive data

Ethical guidelines

- Acknowledge the potential for harm
- Don't include examples in the paper

→ This is usually unnecessary. When it is, consider illustrations or textual descriptions

Ethical guidelines

- Acknowledge the potential for harm
- Don't include examples in the paper
- Don't redistribute the dataset

  → This is non-consensual distribution of intimate content

Ethical guidelines

- Acknowledge the potential for harm
- Don't include examples in the paper
- Don't redistribute the dataset
- Establish & disclose data handling practices

    → Discuss data storage and deletion, researcher access

Ethical guidelines

- Acknowledge the potential for harm
- Don't include examples in the paper
- Don't redistribute the dataset
- Establish & disclose data handling practices
- Consider the necessity of the work

    → Not all of this work was necessary. If the task is nudity detection, use a pretrained classifier

Ethical guidelines for nude images in research

- Acknowledge the potential for harm
- Don't include examples in the paper
- Don't redistribute the dataset
- Establish & disclose data handling practices
- Consider the necessity of the work

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