

# **ON THE FREQUENCY OF PATTERN TYPES AND MINUTIAE ON THE INTERDIGITAL AREA OF PALMPRINTS: TOWARD AUTOMATED DETECTION**

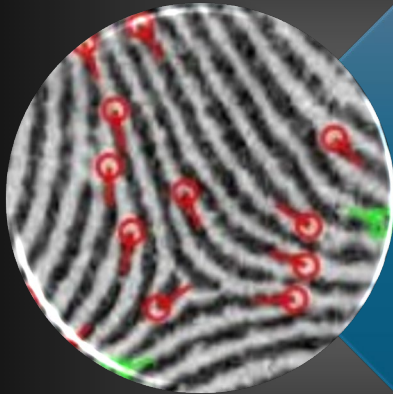
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Forensic Scientist  
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# Overview



## PART I

Interdigital frequencies of pattern types and their arrangements as a key to palm print identification



## PART II

The relationship between the ridge patterning and the frequency of minutiae on the interdigital area of palmprints



## PART III

Future work: Automated detection and frequency-based interpretation of palmprint features for friction ridge examinations

# Why the interdigital area?

Deltas and  
cores:

Number

Type

Location

Arrangements

The most ridge  
flow  
characteristics

The most  
complex  
region

Where the greatest  
variation in crest  
flow occurs



# PART I

Interdigital frequencies of pattern types and their arrangements as a key to palm print identification





# GOAL

- 1) Frequency of patterns – Intervals and bases of the fingers
- 2) Patterns arrangements and their respective frequencies
- 3) Foment the refinement of automated systems.



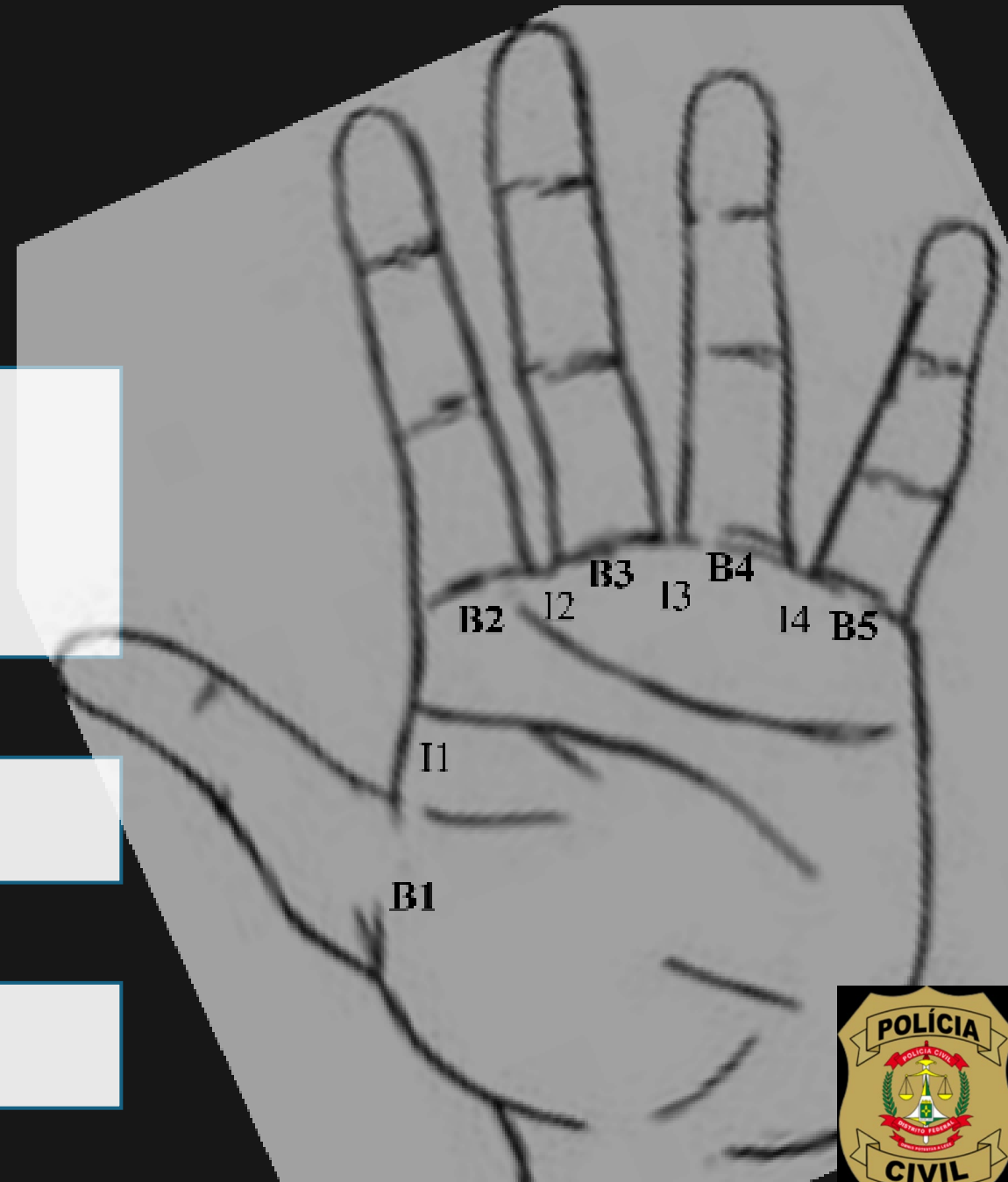
# METHODOLOGY

4000 palmprints

- 2000 - right hand
- 2000 - left hand

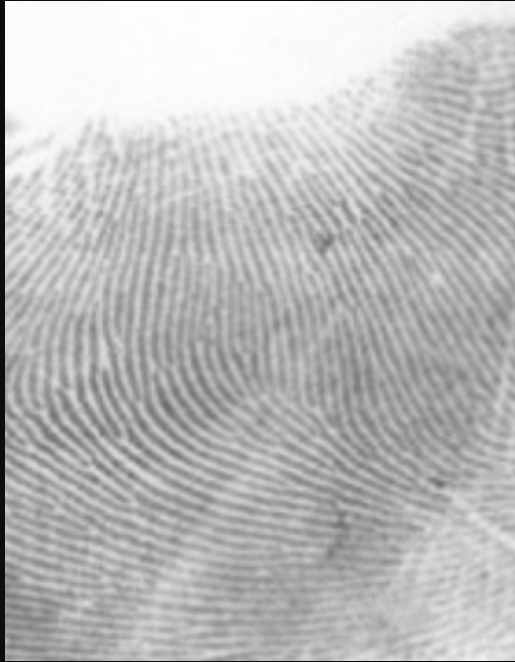
4 intervals (I1, I2, I3 e I4)

5 bases (B1, B2, B3, B4, e B5)



# Palmprint analysis

## Patterns at the intervals



No pattern  
(code 0)



Loop  
(code 2)



Composite  
(code 3)



Whorl  
(code 4)



# Palmprint analysis

## Patterns at the bases



**Delta**  
(code 0)



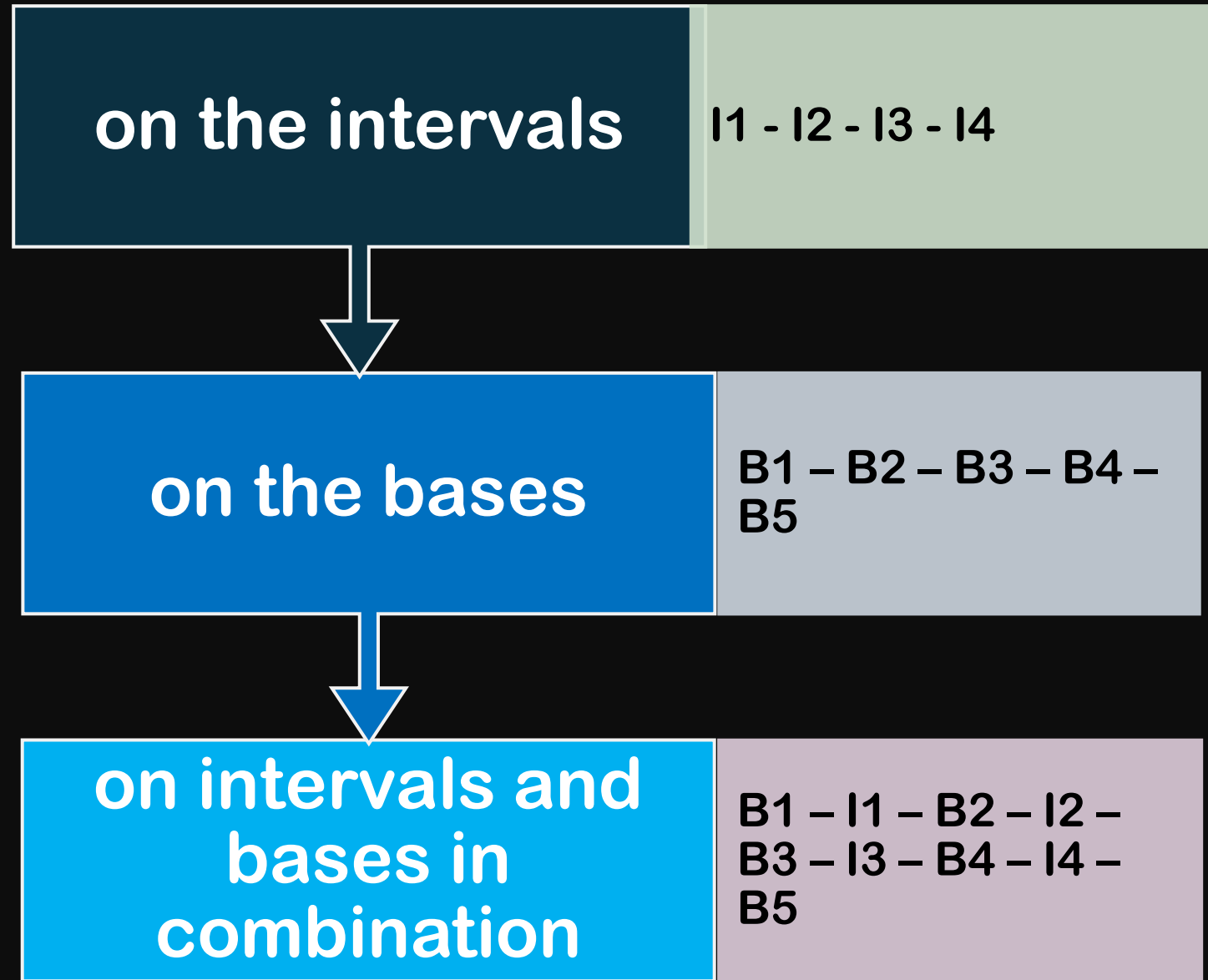
**Plain Arch**  
(code 1)



**Tented Arch**  
(code 2)



# Arrangements



# RESULTS

## Pattern frequencies

Interval 1	Interval 2	Interval 3	Interval 4
All patterns	No pattern (Code 0) – 95.6%	All patterns	All patterns
No pattern (Code 0) is the prevalent (more than 94%)	Loop (Code 2) – 4.4%	No pattern (Code 0) is the prevalent – 67.67%	No pattern (Code 0) – 44.57%
		Loop (Code 2) – 32.07%	Loop (Code 2) – 52.08%
		Composite (Code 3) – 0.03%	Composite (Code 3) – 2.48%
		Whorl (Code 4) – 0.22%	Whorl (Code 4) – 0.88%
			Right hand – 51.5% no pattern
			Left hand – 37.65% no pattern

Base 1	Base 2	Base 3	Base 4	Base 5
Plain arch – 97.72%	Delta – 100%	Delta – 99.93%	Delta – 73.45%	Delta – 99.8%
Delta – 2.28%		Tented arch – 0.07%	Plain arch – 6.32%	Plain arch – 0.18%
			Tented arch – 20.23%	Tented arch – 0.03%





# RESULTS

## Arrangements on the intervals

33 arrangements observed

19 common to both hands

5 exclusively on the right hand

9 exclusively on the left hand

The frequency of exclusive arrangements is less than 0.3%





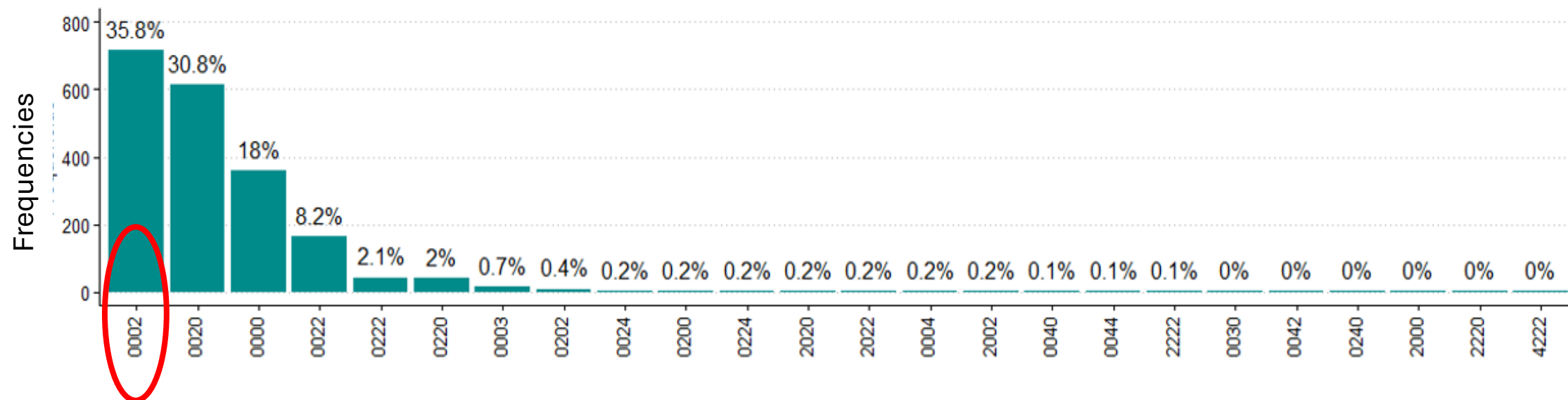
4222

1 (0.03%)

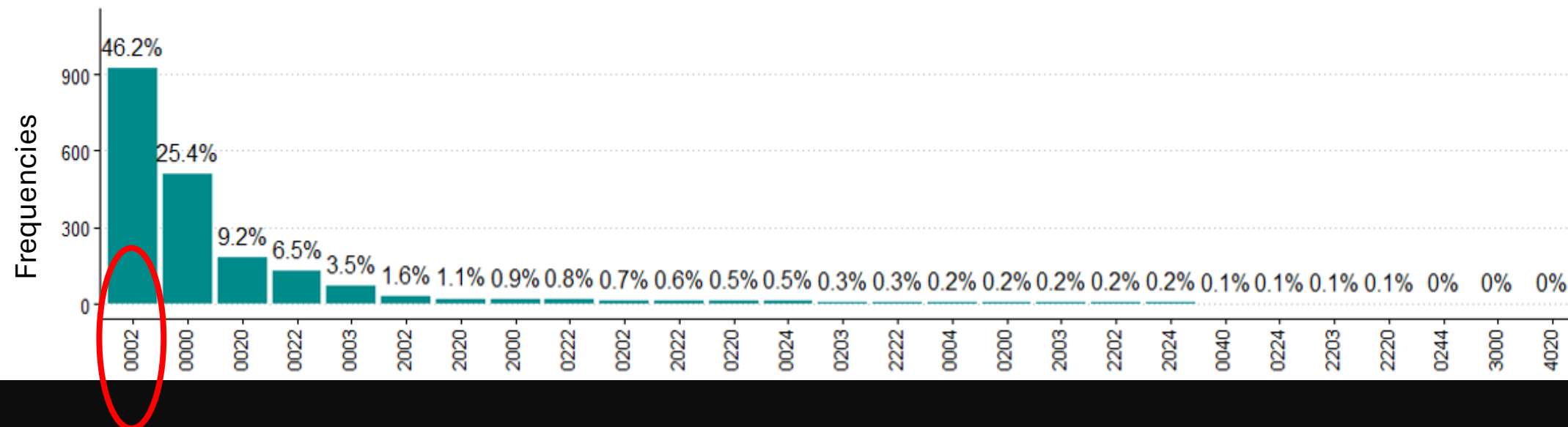
1 (0.05%)

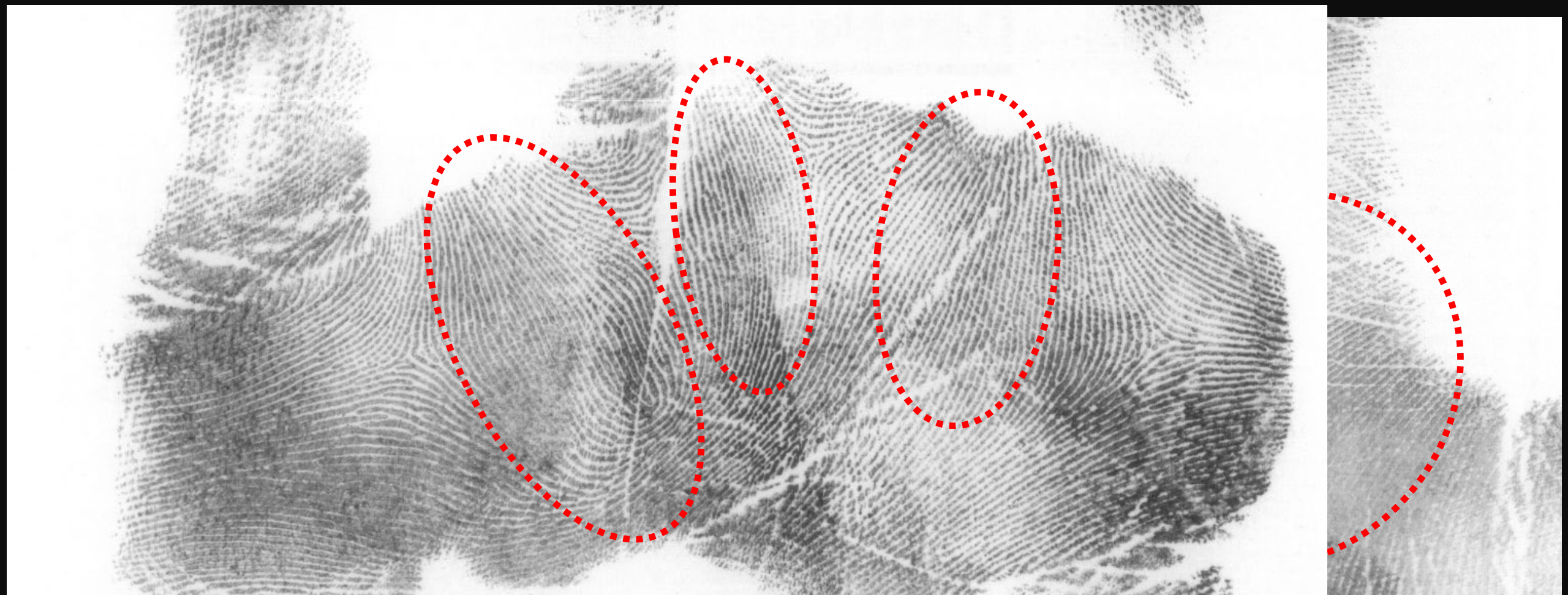
0 (0%)

## Right hand (N = 2000)



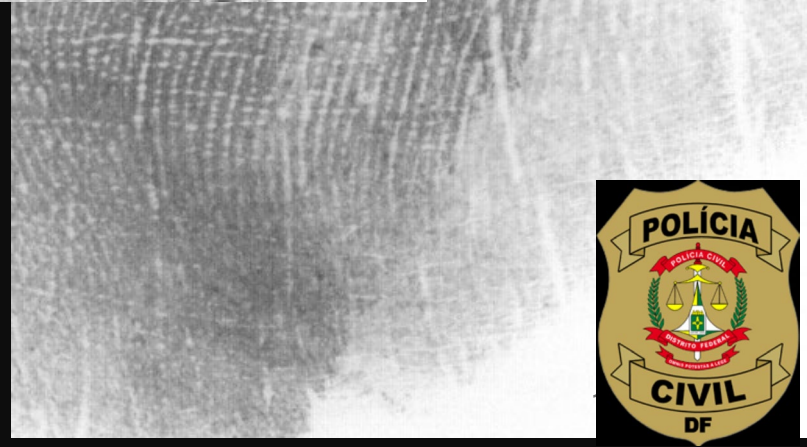
## Left hand (N = 2000)





Most common arrangement on the intervals: 0-0-0-2

I1                  I2                  I3                  I4  
no pattern – no pattern – no patten – loop





F =  
0.1%



Rare arrangement that occurs in both hands: 0-0-4-0

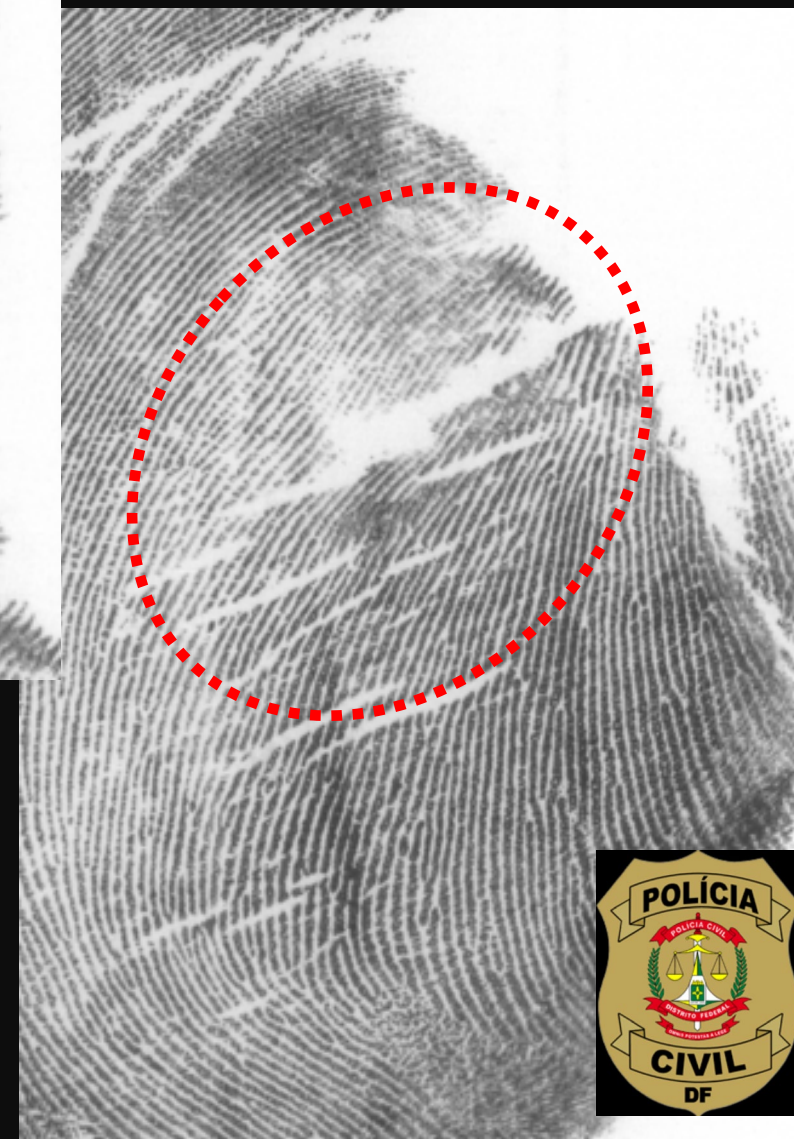
I1

I2

I3

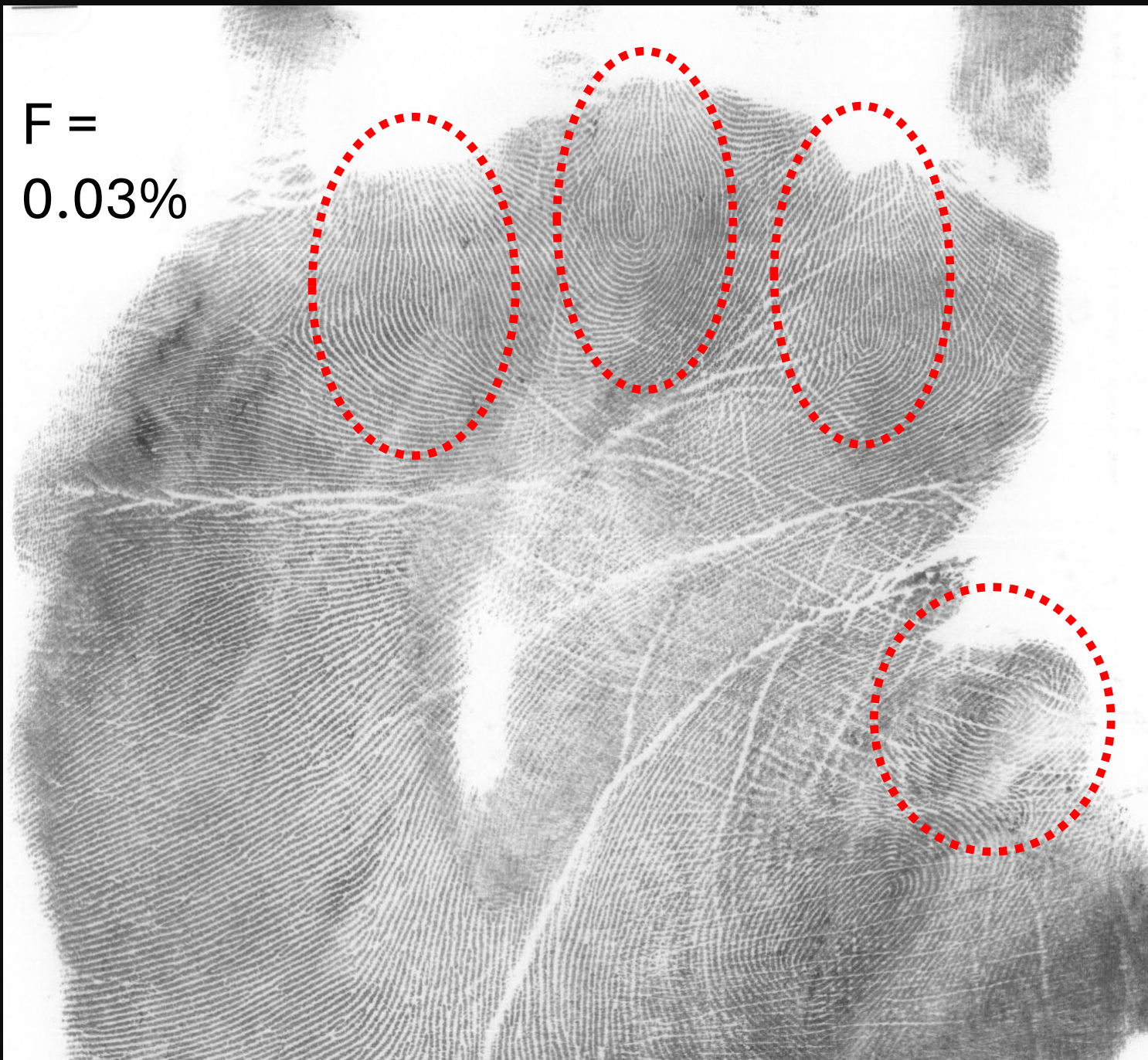
I4

No pattern – no pattern – whorl – no pattern





F =  
0.03%



Arrangement 4-2-2-0

I1      I2      I3      I4  
whorl – loop – loop – no patter





# Would it be possible to see a palmpoint with a whorl in all four intervals?





# RESULTS

## Arrangements on the bases

10 arrangements observed

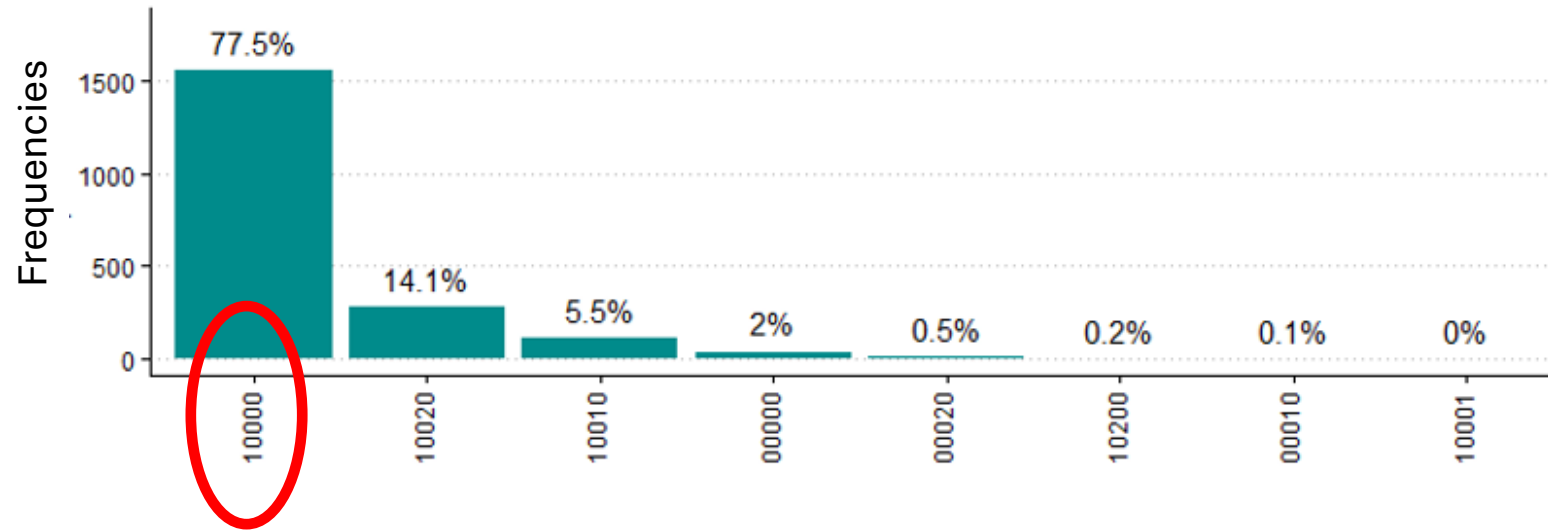
7 common to both hands

1 occurs exclusively in the right  
hand ( $F = 0.15\%$ )

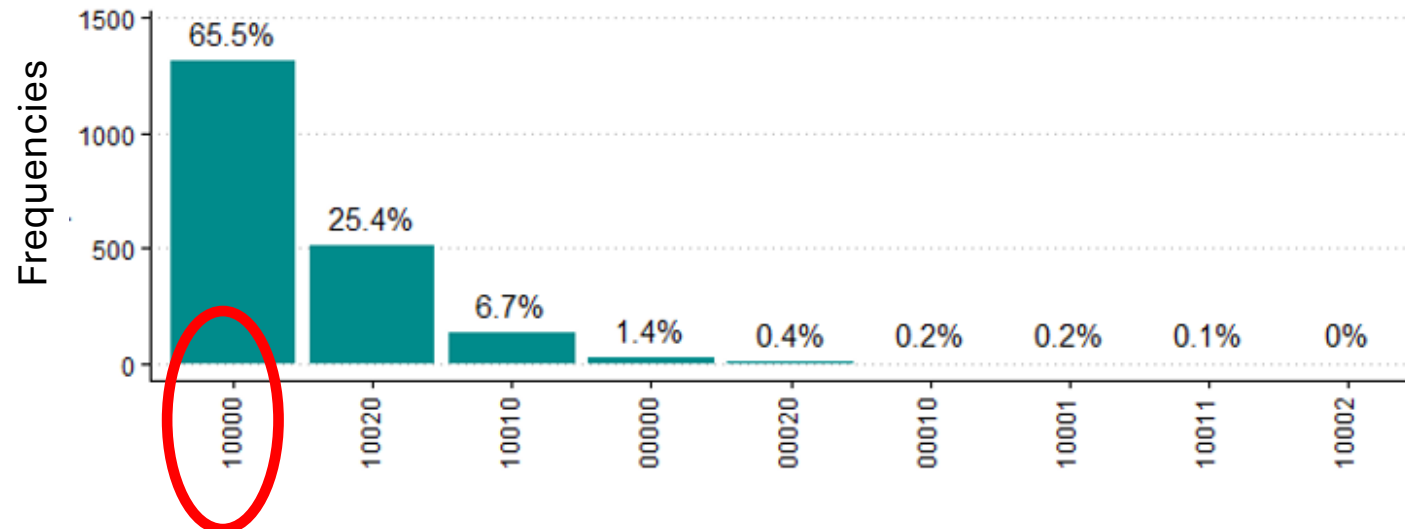
2 occur exclusively in the left  
hand ( $F = 0.06\%$ )

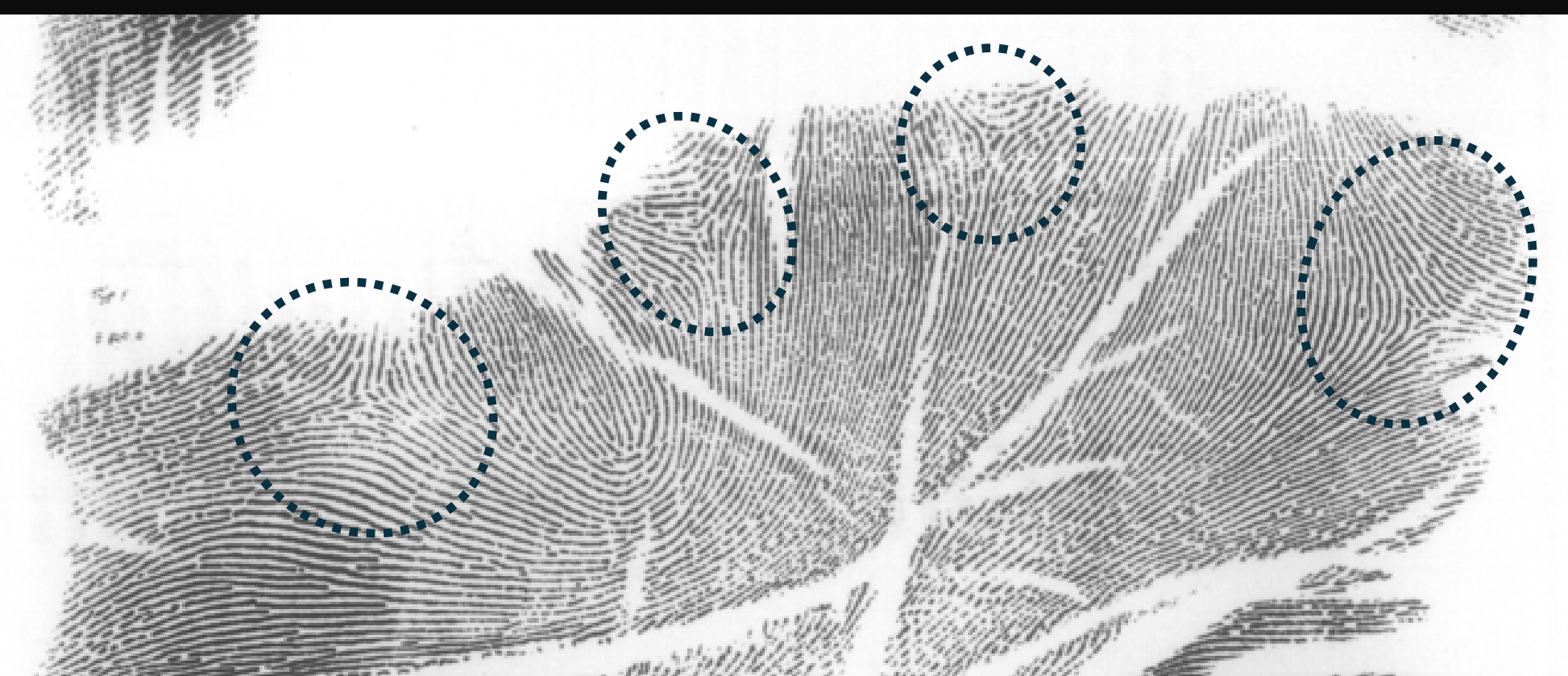


## Right hand



## Left hand

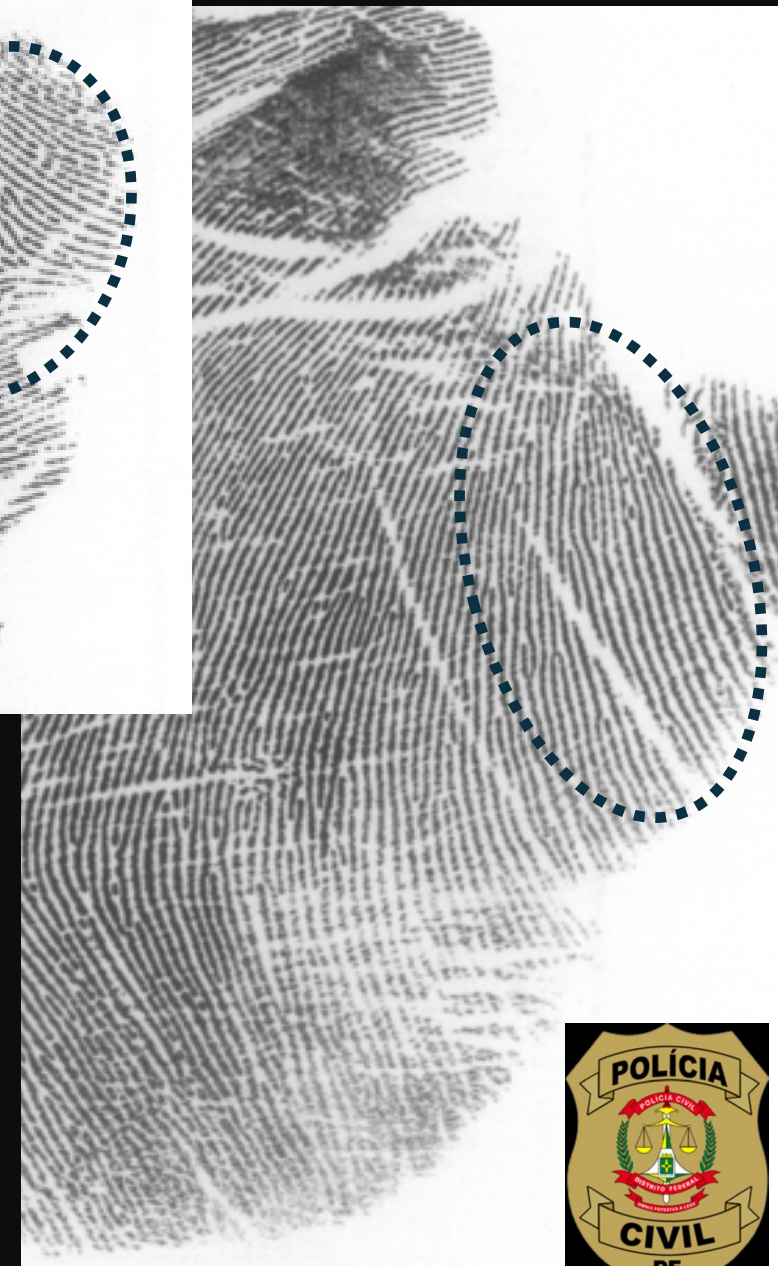




Most common arrangement on the bases: 1-0-0-0-0

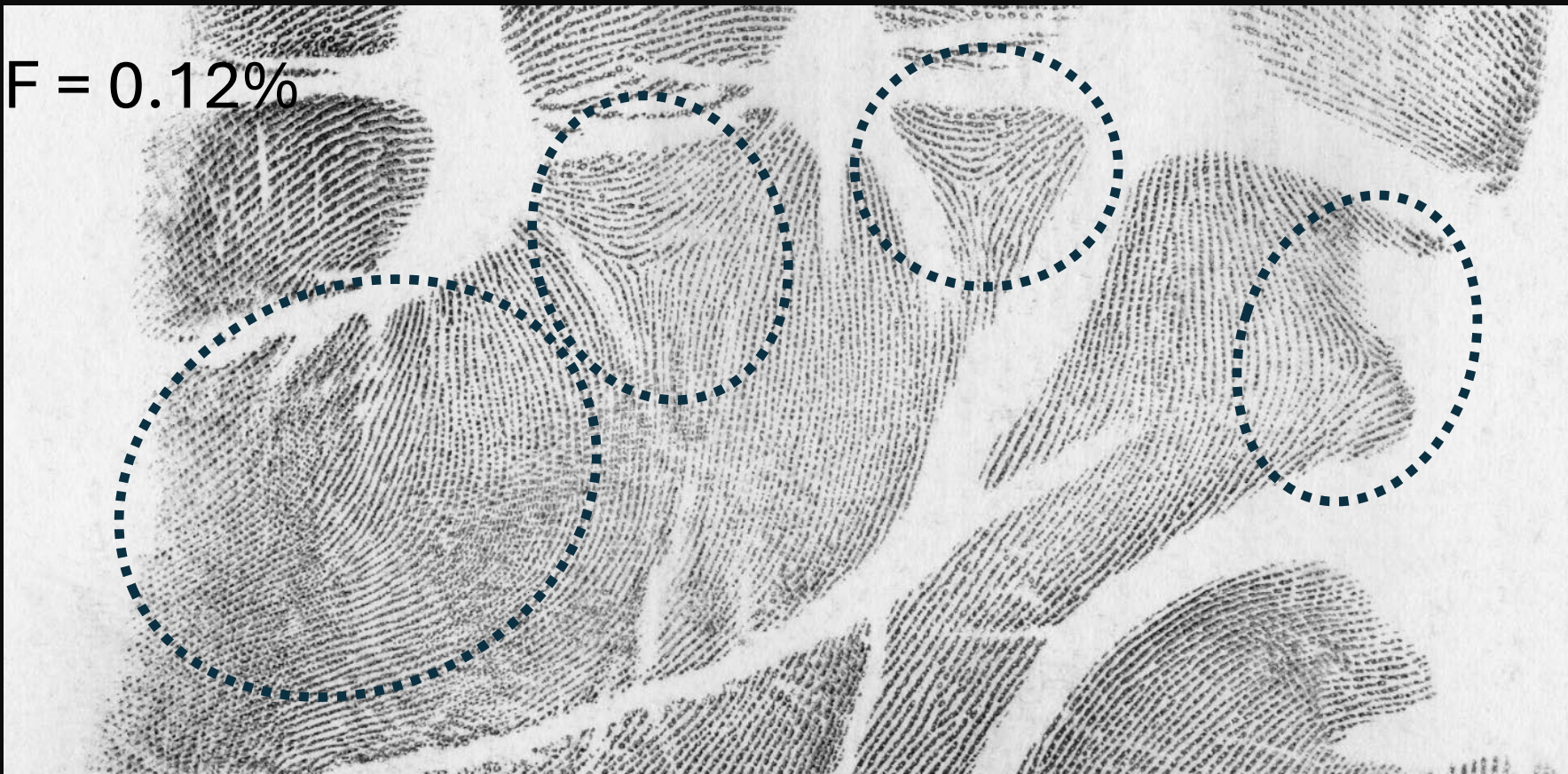
B1      B2      B3      B4      B5

Plain arch – delta – delta – delta – delta





$F = 0.12\%$



Rare arrangement that occur in both hands: 1-0-0-0-1

B1

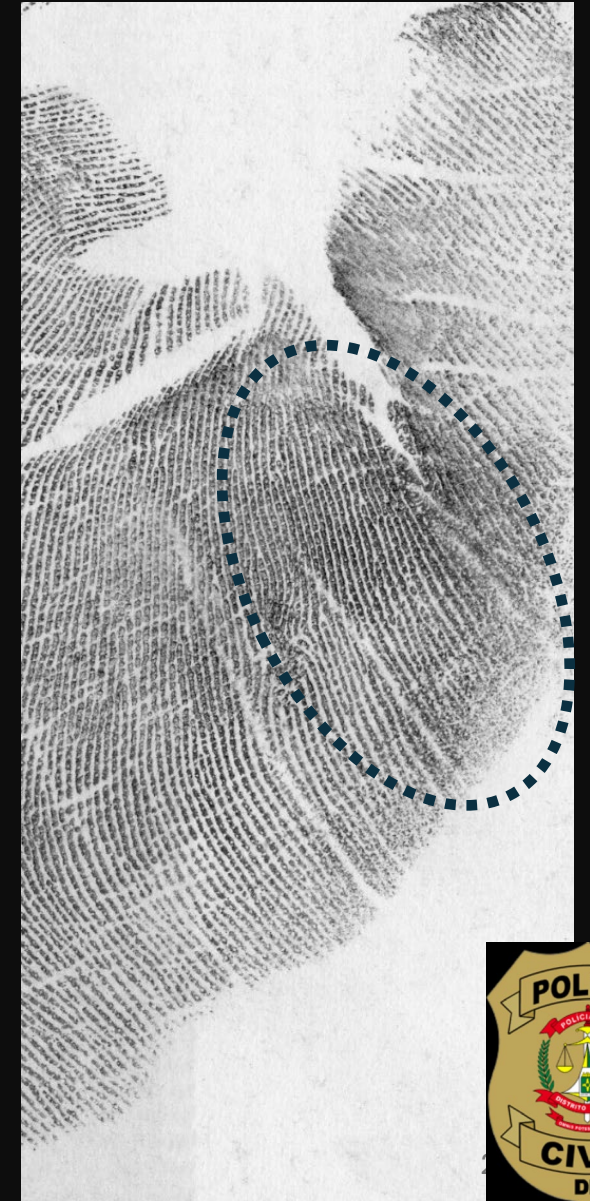
B2

B3

B4

B5

plain arch – delta – delta – delta – plain arch



## RESULTS

Arrangements  
on the intervals and  
bases analyzed in  
combination

81 arrangements observed

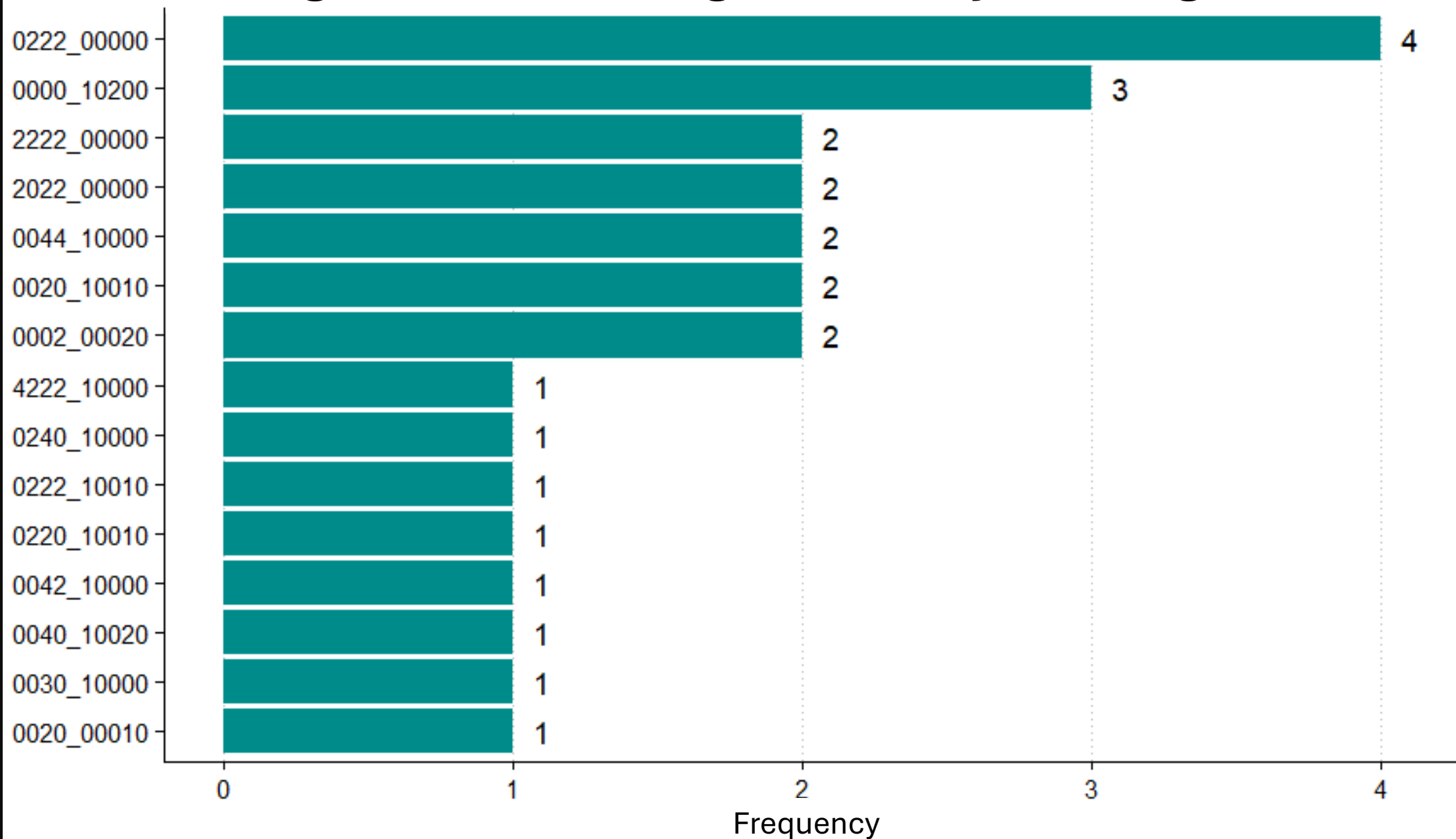
36 common to both hands

15 occur exclusively in the right  
hand ( $F < 0.2\%$ )

29 occur exclusively in the left  
hand ( $F < 0.3\%$ )

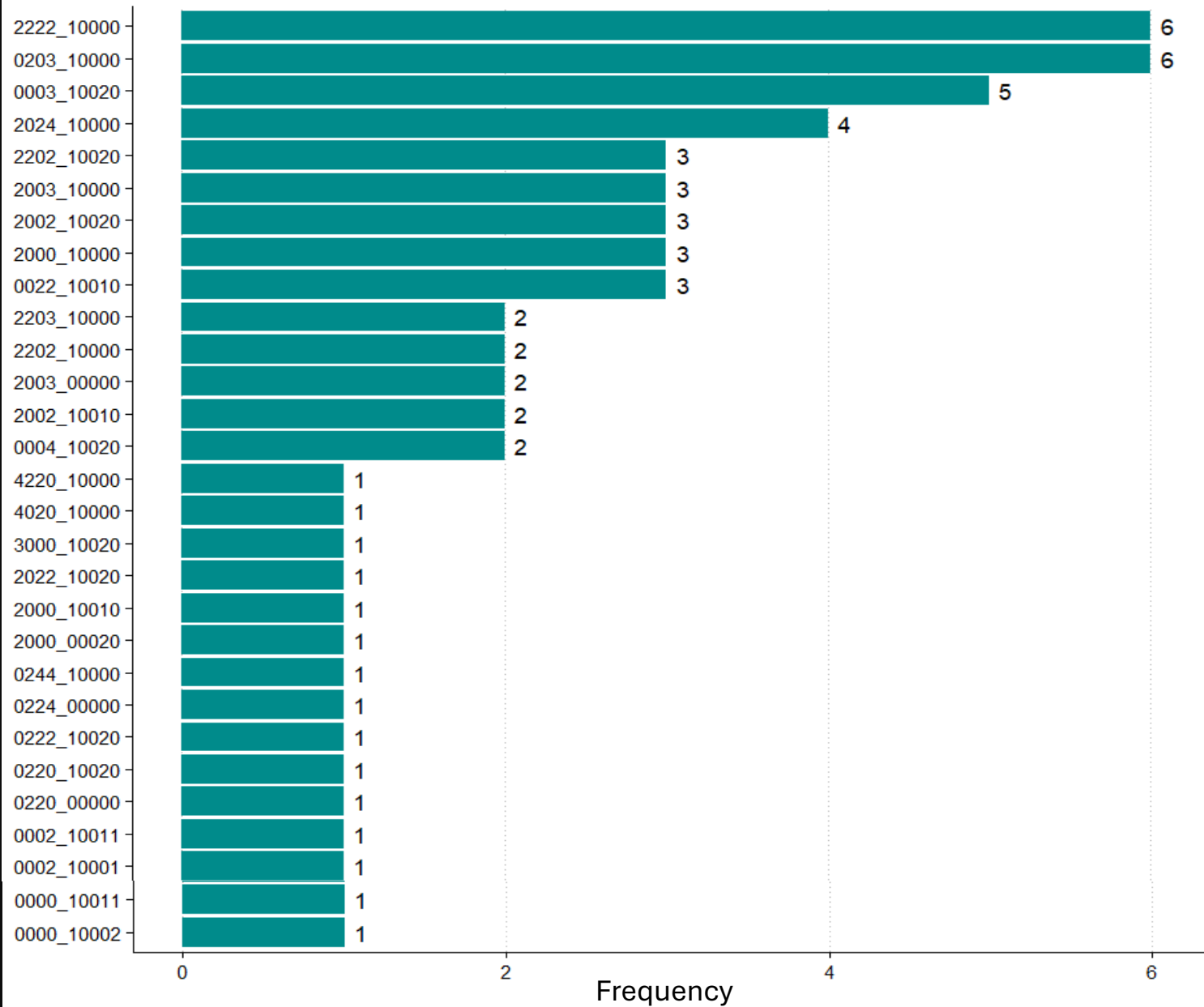


## Arrangements occurring exclusively in the right hand





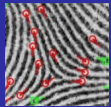
# Arrangements occurring exclusively in the left hand



# CONCLUSIONS



The interdigital region can be statistically classified as a unit.



Some arrangements are common, others rare, and some may never occur.




Additional tool in cases involving low-quality palm marks.



Enhancement of biometric identification efficiency in automated systems.





# PART II

The relationship between the ridge patterning and the frequency of minutiae on the interdigital area of palmprints



# Minutiae

Discriminating power.

It's the comparison of the relative positions of a set of minutiae (mark vs. print) that informs examiner's opinion.

## What do we know about minutiae?

Vary qualitatively, quantitatively, and topologically.

They are influenced by level 1 detail, sex, and ancestry.

Each type of minutiae has a different discriminatory value.



# What do we know about minutiae in palmprints?

**Sex and population variability of the number and distribution of minutia – interdigital, hypothenar, thenar.**

**Frequency of 13 minutia types and their mutual occurrence on the hypothenar area of the palmprint.**



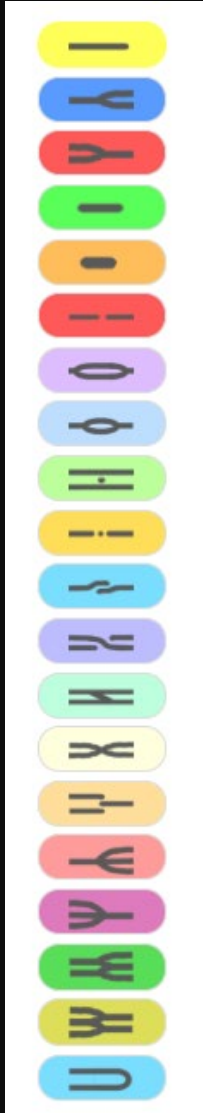
**Categorical opinion.**

**Increased scrutiny in the legal system.**

**Statistical uncertainty associated with  
a person's identification based on the  
minutiae present in a mark.**







# How to provide quantitative measure of weight of evidence to palmprint comparisons?

Frequency of minutiae

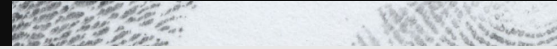
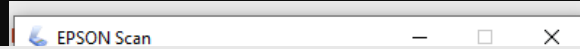


# OBJECTIVES

- 1 Count the frequency of general patterns in the sample, per hand and sex.
- 2 Count the frequency of minutia types on the interval 4.
- 3 Assess if the minutia type frequencies are statistically different between men and women.
- 4 Assess if there is an association between Level 1 and the frequency of minutiae.

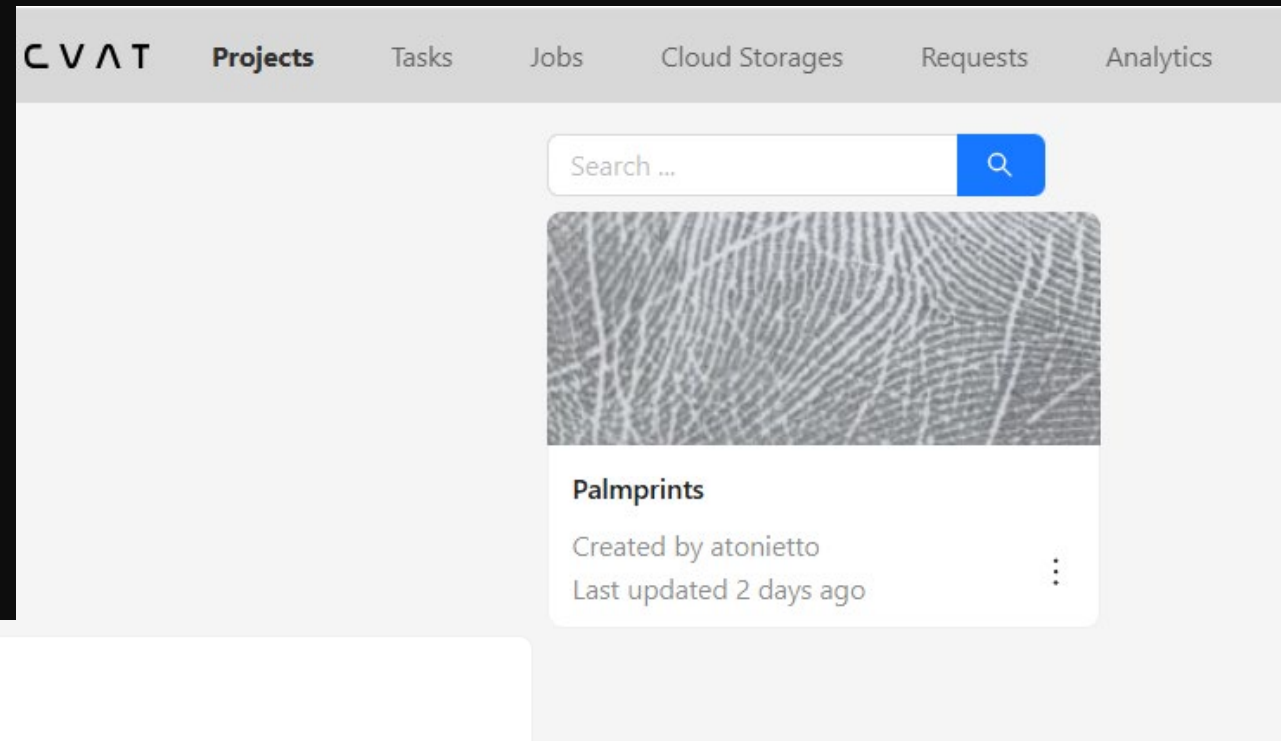


# METHODOLOGY





# METHODOLOGY



## Palmpoints [🔗](#)

Project #1 created by atonietto on March 5th 2025

Assigned to

### Project description

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### Issue Tracker [🔗](#)

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[🔗](#) Constructor

Add label [⊕](#)

Setup skeleton [⊕](#)

From model [⊕](#)

E [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

B [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

C [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

F-BG [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

F-SM [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

BR [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

EN-BG [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

EN-SM [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

P-BW [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

P-IN [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

O [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

CR [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

BD [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

OB [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

D [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

TF-B [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

TF-C [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

M-B [🔗](#) [🗑](#)

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# METHODOLOGY

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Minutiae type		Definition
Ridge ending (E)		The termination of a ridge.
Bifurcation (B)		A point where a dermal ridge, originating from the left side of the palmprint, splits into two.
Convergence (C)		A point where two ridges, originating from the left side of the palmprint, merge into one.
Fragment Big (F-BG)		Short ridge with a length five to ten times its width.
Fragment Small (F-SM)		A short ridge with a length less than five times its width.
Break (BR)		A point where the course of a ridge is interrupted, in a way that the discontinuity is not less than the width of the ridge nor larger than double its width.
Enclosure Big (EN-BG)		Where the ridge path divides and then comes together again, with its length five to ten times the width of the dermal ridge.
<u>Enclosure Small</u> (EN-SM)		Where the ridge path divides and then comes together again with its length less than five times the width of the dermal ridge.
<u>Point</u> between (P-BW)		One ridge unit, containing only one sweat gland pore, between two ridges.
Point in ridge (P-IN)		One ridge unit, containing only one sweat gland pore within a ridge.






# METHODOLOGY







# RESULTS - Frequency (%) of Level 1

Pattern	Both hands (n = 80)	Left hand (n = 40)	Right hand (n = 40)
	46%	52%	40%
	44%	30%	57%
	6%	10%	2%
	2%	2%	0
	1%	1%	0

# RESULTS

7,380 minutiae were computed.



Merge C



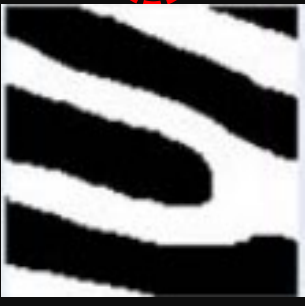
Merge B



Trifurcation B

Left hand has 17.76% more minutiae than right hand.

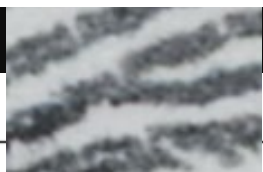
Minu tia RF	B	BD	BR	C	CR	D	E	EN- BG	EN- SM	F-BG	F-SM	O	OB	P-BW	P-IN	R	S	TF-C
(%)	7.56	0.06	0.98	5.25	2.26	0.54	68.29	0.09	0.23	1.93	4.87	2.2	0.04	3.38	0.08	0.02	1.47	0.02



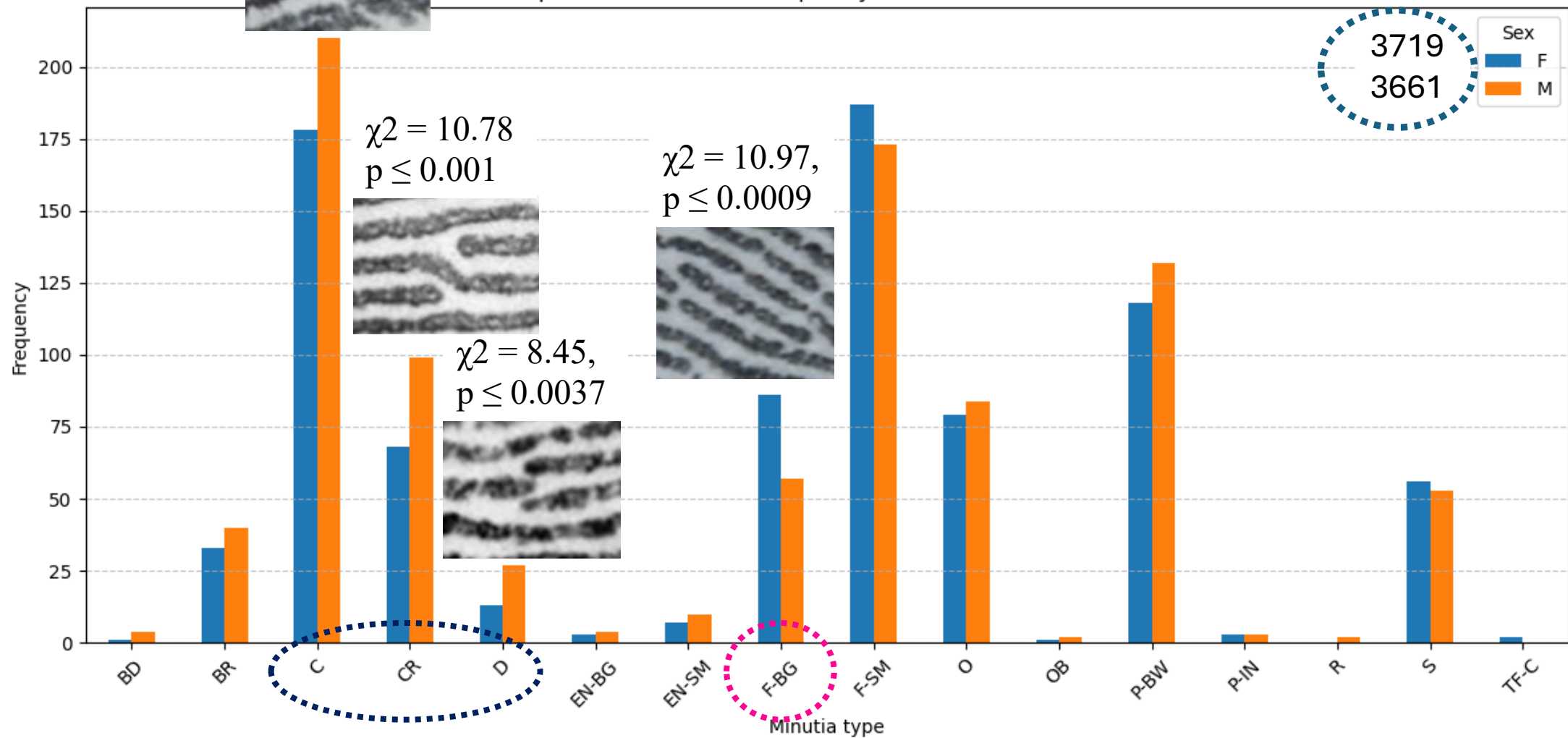


# RESULTS

$\chi^2 = 4.95, p \leq 0.026$



Comparison of minutiae frequency between men and women





E > B > C > F-SM > P-BW > CR > O > F-BG > S > BR >

D > EN-SM > BD > EN-BG > P-IN > OB > R > TF-C

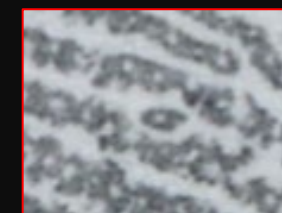
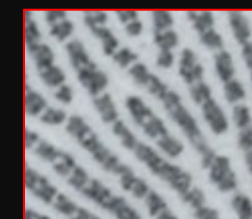
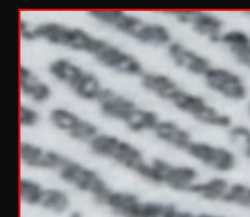


E > B > F-SM > C > P-BW > F-BG > O > CR > S >

BR > D > EN-SM > EN-BG > P-IN > TF-C > BD > OB > R

# Relationship between Level 1 and Level 2

Minutia	Test	p-value
B	Chi-Square	0.2076
BD	Fisher (sim)	0.7827
BR	Fisher (sim)	0.3121
C	Chi-Square	0.0574
CR	Chi-Square	0.2664
D	Fisher (sim)	0.7428
E	Chi-Square	0.8480
EN-BG	Fisher (sim)	0.4270
EN-SM	Fisher (sim)	1.0000
F-BG	Fisher (sim)	0.0171*
F-SM	Chi-Square	0.0124*
O	Chi-Square	0.6977
OB	Fisher (sim)	0.3340
P-BW	Chi-Square	0.9190
P-IN	Fisher (sim)	0.0104*
R	Fisher (sim)	0.0734
S	Fisher (sim)	1.0000
TF-C	Fisher (sim)	0.0821



# CONCLUSION

The importance of less common minutia types.

Findings also challenge previous research on sex-based minutiae differences.

The necessity of standardizing minutiae classification to enhance comparison across populations.





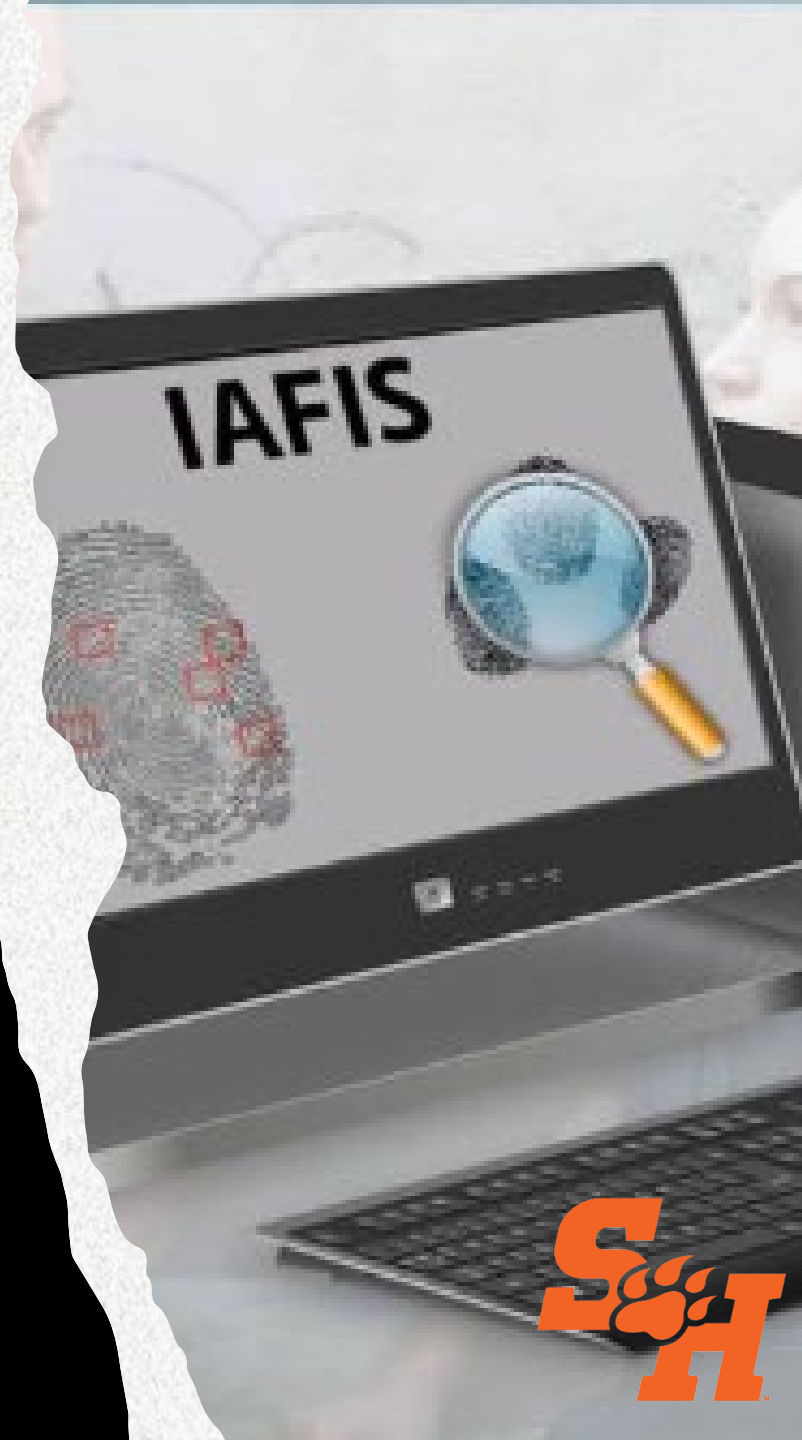
# PART III

**Automated detection and frequency-based interpretation of  
palmprint features for friction ridge examinations**





# Automation of friction ridge examinations



## DEEP ARCHITECTURES

Stronger representative capacity

Can learn more abstract features

Greater learning competence

Better generalization performance



**Convolutional  
Neural Network  
(CNN)**

# CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETWORK

Learn minutiae patterns

Detect them accurately





# OBJECTIVES

**Training a model to automatically detect and classify Level 1 and Level 2 features in pristine palmprints.**

**Automatically counting and storing their respective relative frequencies, as well as updating the database every time new palmprints are inserted.**

# THANK YOU!

A hand from the left points towards a glowing blue brain in the center. The background is dark with a futuristic hexagonal grid overlay containing various icons like a gear, a lightbulb, and a network. The text 'THANK YOU!' is written in large, bold, black letters at the top.

## Questions?

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ato009@shsu.edu

