

SDK vs. API?

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Which is better SDKs or APIs? I think there are pros and cons of each. I'm not going to go into the generic SDK versus API debate, but I will say that in facial biometrics, the most important thing is capturing the right imagery. Without the right imagery, your facial models can't process and produce the right result.

In order to capture the right imagery, you not only need enough images, you also need images that models can process. So at iProov, we took the SDK approach so that we can capture all the images that our face models can use. If in a user experience, we weren't getting the right images. We could stop the user and say, 'hey, please try again' before they fail.

With APIs, the capture process is typically built by the buyer or the integrator. And that means sometimes you might not be capturing the right images. And so users would fail. Maybe they're asked to try again and then they would grow frustrated.

I think sometimes buyers might choose APIs because it is cheaper. It's more cost-effective, but if more users are failing and you're having to ask users to do it again and make more transactions, are you really saving that much more money?