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ASTR

AI and Facial Recognition powered **S**olution for **T**elecom SIM Subscriber Ve**R**ification

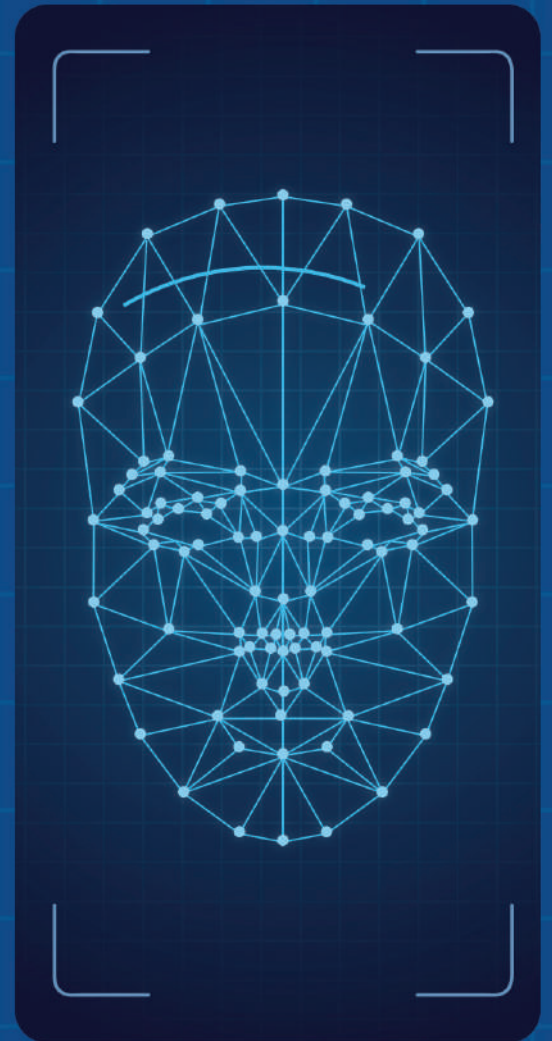The next-gen AI/ML solution for neutralising cyber crimes.

About ASTR

AI and **Facial Recognition** powered **Solution** for **T**elecom SIM Subscriber Ve**R**ification (ASTR) is an advanced solution developed by India's Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), a premier R&D centre of Ministry of Communication, Government of India.

ASTR harnesses the power of artificial intelligence (AI) and facial recognition technology to revolutionise the verification of Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) significantly reducing the risk of fraudulent activities. The solution employs next-generation advanced algorithms and proactive intelligence to analyse vast databases of subscriber images, swiftly identifying connections obtained through forged documentation. This enables telecom operators and law enforcement agencies to take proactive measures against fraudulent mobile connections, protecting both consumers and the integrity of the telecom ecosystem.

How ASTR Works

Data Collection: LEAs provide ASTR list of suspected connections, which includes photographs of individuals take during the SIM registration process.

Image Matching: ASTR extracts facial features from subscriber images and compares them against the entire database to identify multiple SIM connections linked to the same individual.

Fraud Detection: On detection of multiple connections linked to the same person, the system flags them as potentially fraudulent, prompting further investigation.
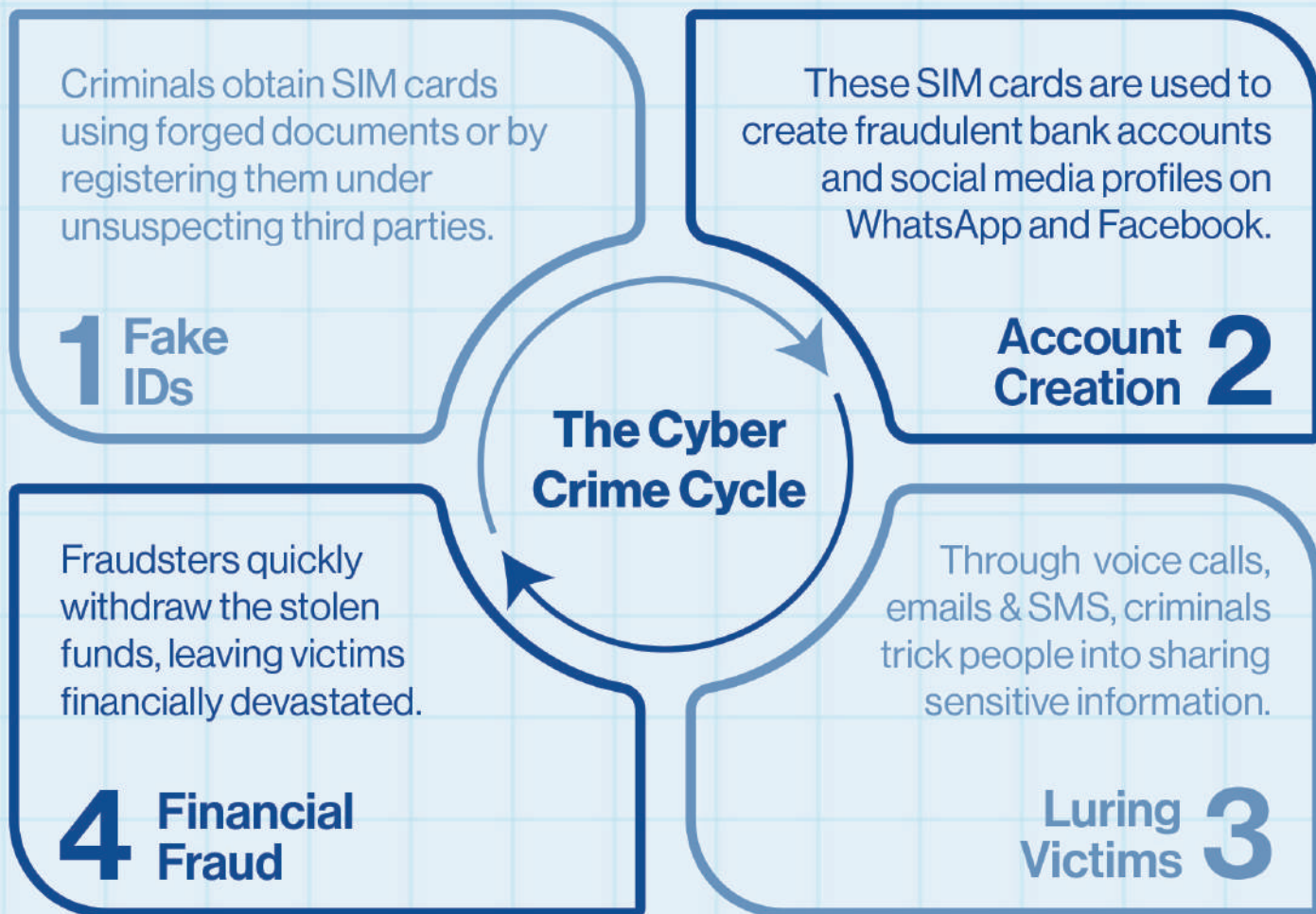
Action: LEAs/ Operators can take appropriate actions, such as blocking the fraudulent mobile connections and preventing further misuse.

Technologies Used

ASTR uses next-generation AI/ML algorithms for generating accurate results.

The Cyber Crime Cycle

1 Fake IDs
Criminals obtain SIM cards using forged documents or by registering them under unsuspecting third parties.

Account Creation 2
These SIM cards are used to create fraudulent bank accounts and social media profiles on WhatsApp and Facebook.

Luring Victims 3
Through voice calls, emails & SMS, criminals trick people into sharing sensitive information.

4 Financial Fraud
Fraudsters quickly withdraw the stolen funds, leaving victims financially devastated.

ASTR Breaks the Chain:

Facial Recognition
ASTR identifies multiple SIM cards linked to the same person, even if fake IDs were used during registration.

Prevention
By preventing the creation of fraudulent accounts, ASTR disrupts the entire cybercrime cycle.

Early Detection
It allows authorities to block fraudulent SIM cards before they can be used to create fake accounts

Investigation
When fraudulent SIMs are detected, ASTR's data can be used by law enforcement to trace criminals

Objectives

» To carry out 100% SIM verification across all TSP.

» Prevention of cyber-crimes and frauds.

» Assisting the LEAs in the investigation of financial frauds and cyber crimes.

Benefits of ASTR

1 **Enhanced Fraud Detection:** ASTR's AI-powered facial recognition accurately identifies multiple SIM connections associated with a single individual, enabling early detection & prevention of fraudulent activities.

2 **Increased Security:** By reducing the prevalence of fraudulent SIM cards, ASTR strengthens the overall security of the telecom network, protecting consumers from identity theft, financial fraud, and other cybercrimes.

3 **Improved Efficiency:** ASTR's automated processes streamline the verification of SIM card subscribers, reducing the need for manual intervention & minimising the time and resources required for fraud detection.

4 **Cost Savings:** By preventing fraudulent activities, ASTR helps telecom operators avoid financial losses associated with fraudulent SIM card usage, such as unauthorised calls, SMS scams, and data theft.