

NON-INVASIVE STRESS MONITORING FROM VIDEO



Akshata Tiwari¹, Brian Matejek², Daniel Haehn³

¹Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, MIT,

²Computer Science Laboratory, SRI International, ³Department of Computer Science, University of Massachusetts Boston

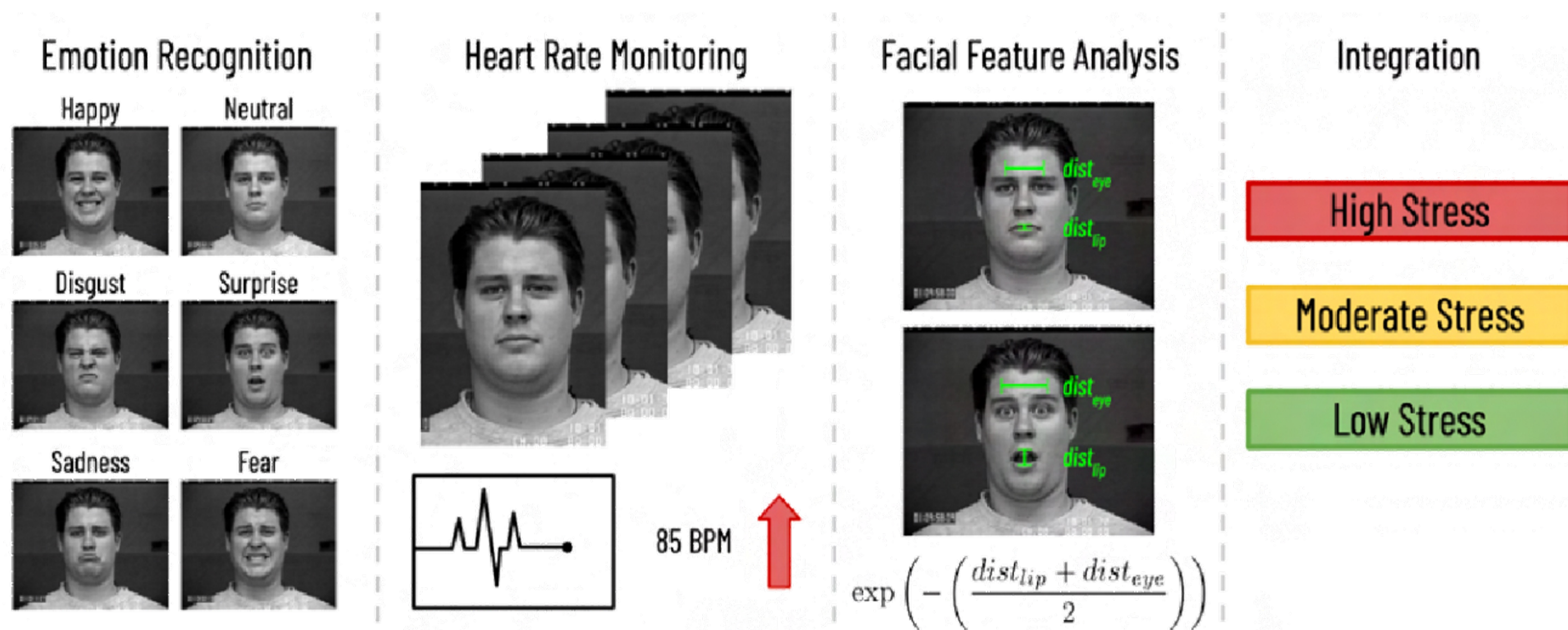


Motivation

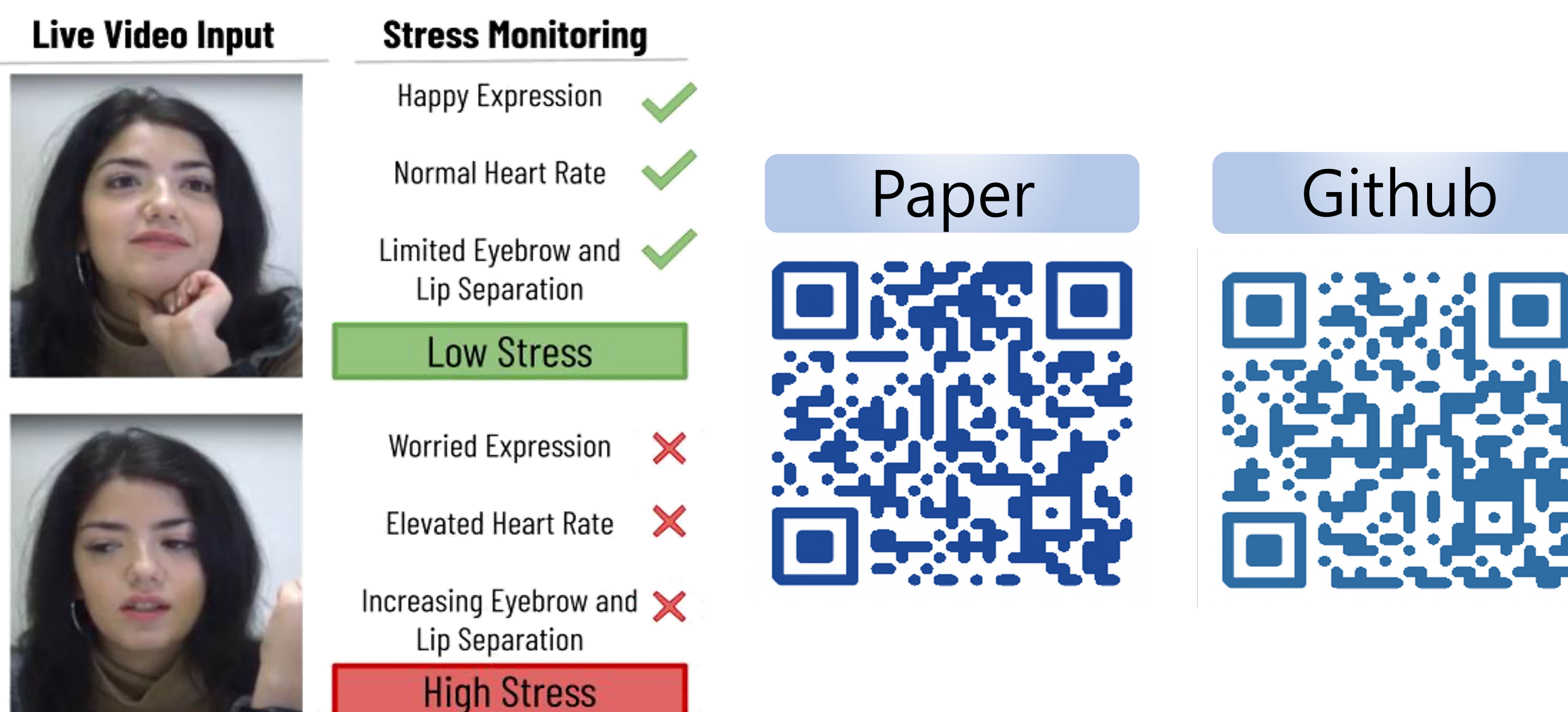
- 4 of 5 adult Americans experience medium to high-stress levels.
- High-stress levels can cause mental and behavioral changes.
- Stress measurements are still conducted through medical devices or user questionnaires.
- An efficient, automated method to detect stress could help curb such consequences of stress.

Contributions

In this study, we propose a framework that achieves rapid, non-invasive stress detection through video.



- Classify the subject's emotional state by extracting frames from video and labeling the expressions.
- Remotely measure the user's heart rate with an algorithm that amplifies the slight changes in skin hue.
- We calculate the distances of specific facial landmarks, such as the eyebrows and lips, in successive frames.

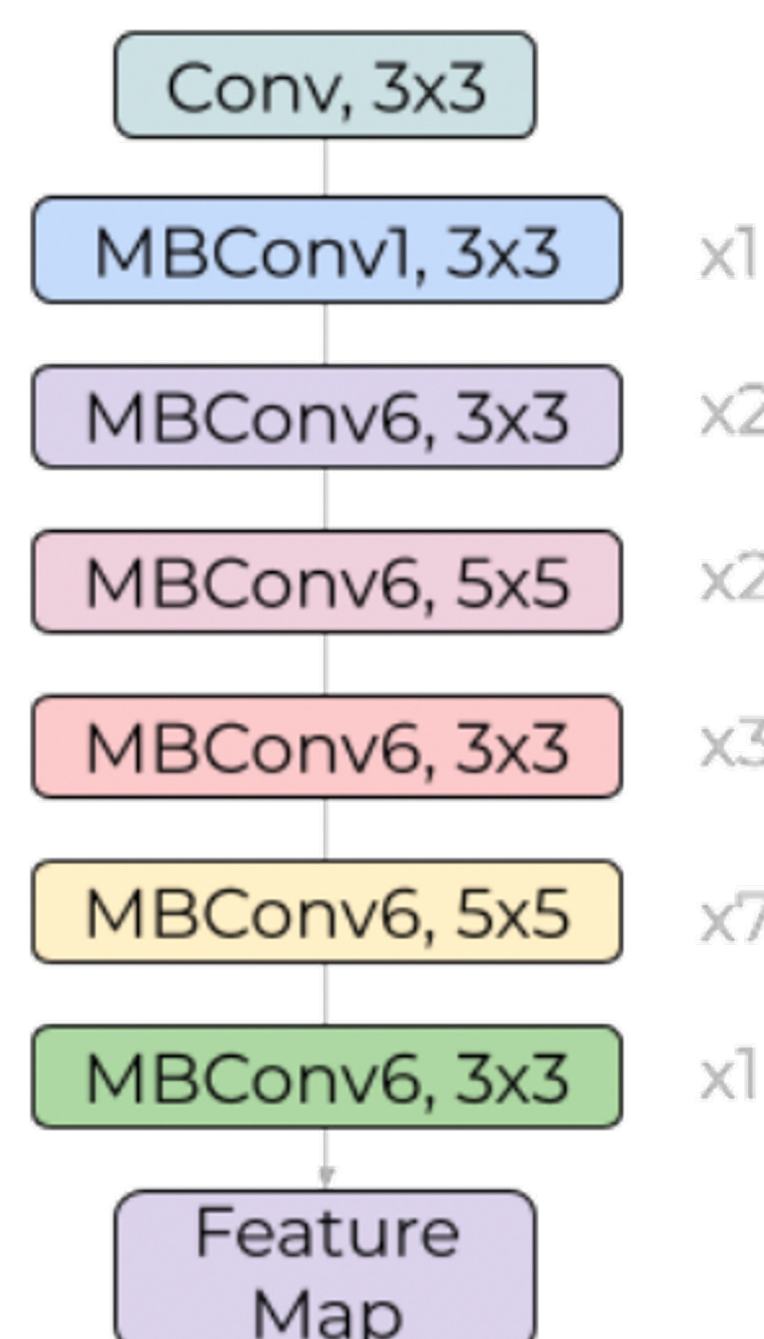


Methods

Emotion Recognition



- Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)
- VGG-19 with Batch Normalization
- Support Vector Machine (SVM)
- Decision Tree Model, and EfficientNet



Heart Rate Detection (EVM)



Facial Feature Detection



Measure the variation of facial features from each image frame.

- Eyebrows
- Lips
- Mouth

$$\mathcal{S}_{FF} = \max \left(\exp \left(-\frac{dist_{lip} + dist_{eye}}{2} \right), 0.85 \right)$$

Creating convex hulls for each item, we calculate Euclidean distance between the left/right eyebrows and top/bottom lip.

Integration

$$\mathcal{S} = \begin{cases} \text{low} & \mathcal{S}_{ER} + \mathcal{S}_{HR} + \mathcal{S}_{FF} < 1.2 \\ \text{moderate} & 1.2 \leq \mathcal{S}_{ER} + \mathcal{S}_{HR} + \mathcal{S}_{FF} < 1.8 \\ \text{high} & \mathcal{S}_{ER} + \mathcal{S}_{HR} + \mathcal{S}_{FF} \geq 1.8 \end{cases}$$
$$\mathcal{S}_{ER} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if ER} \in \text{happiness} \\ 0.6 & \text{if ER} \in \text{neutral} \\ 0.7 & \text{if ER} \in \text{disgust, sadness} \\ 0.8 & \text{if ER} \in \text{fear} \\ 1.0 & \text{if ER} \in \text{anger, surprise} \end{cases}$$
$$\mathcal{S}_{HR} = \begin{cases} 0.4 & \text{if HRV} < 80 \\ 0.7 & \text{if } 80 \leq \text{HRV} < 100 \\ 0.8 & \text{if } 100 \leq \text{HRV} < 120 \\ 1.0 & \text{if HRV} \geq 120 \end{cases}$$

We use a weighted correspondence between components and their stress levels.

Results

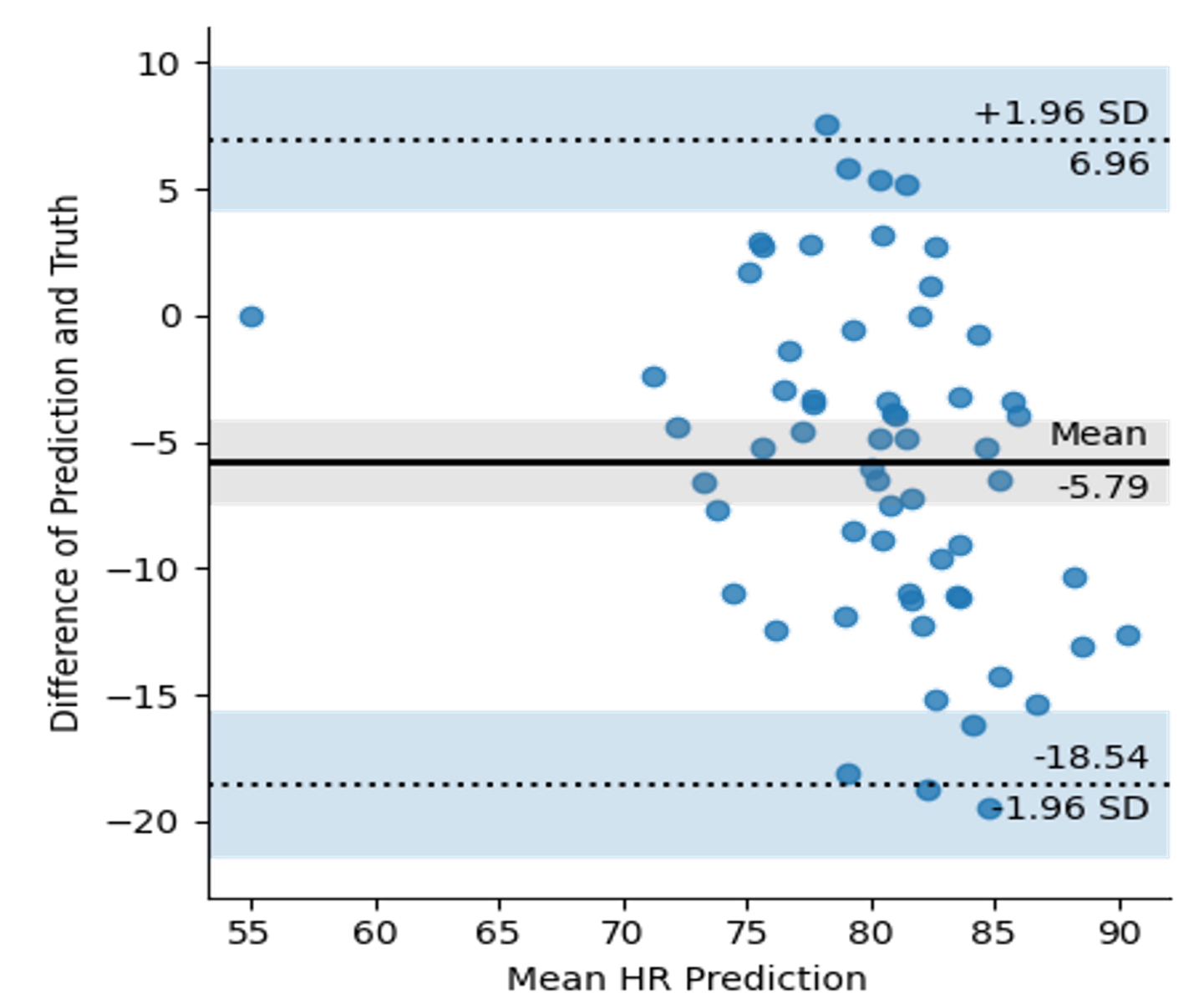
Emotion Recognition

Our framework uses the VGG-19 model, the second highest performance.

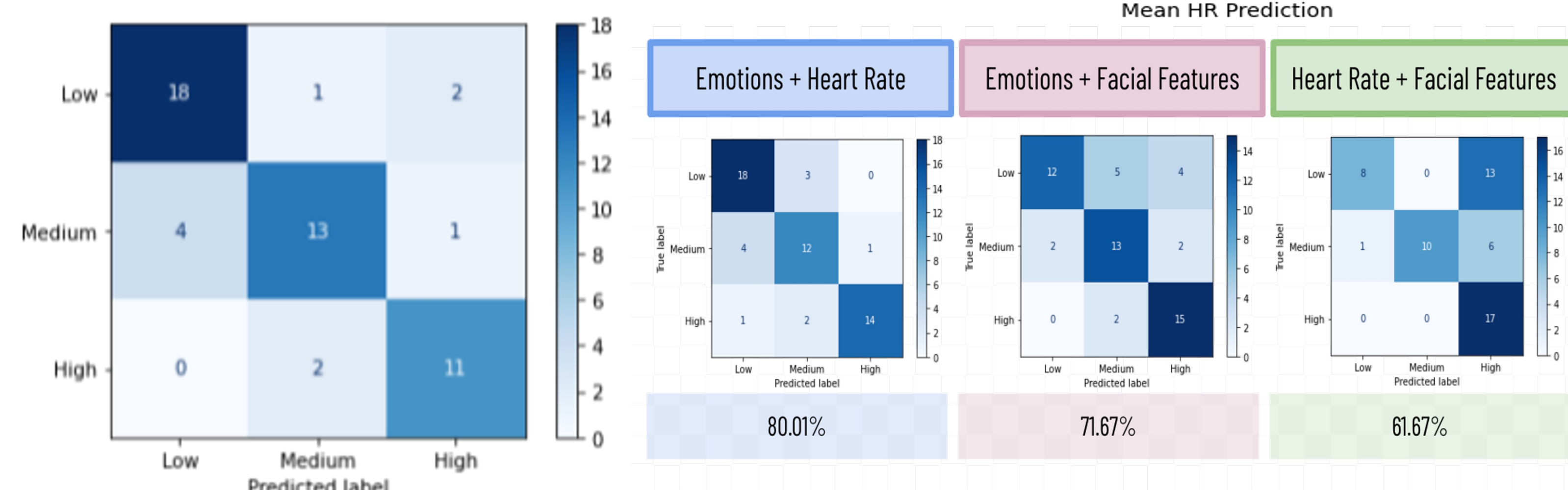
Machine Learning Model	Accuracy (↑)
Linear SVM	84.29
2D CNN	85.50
Decision Tree	80.05
EfficientNet	98.48
VGG-19	96.46

Heart Rate Detection

Past Works' Models	MAE (↓)
2SR	12.81
CHROM	11.36
IBIS-CNN	9.39
HR-CNN	8.72
This Study	5.79

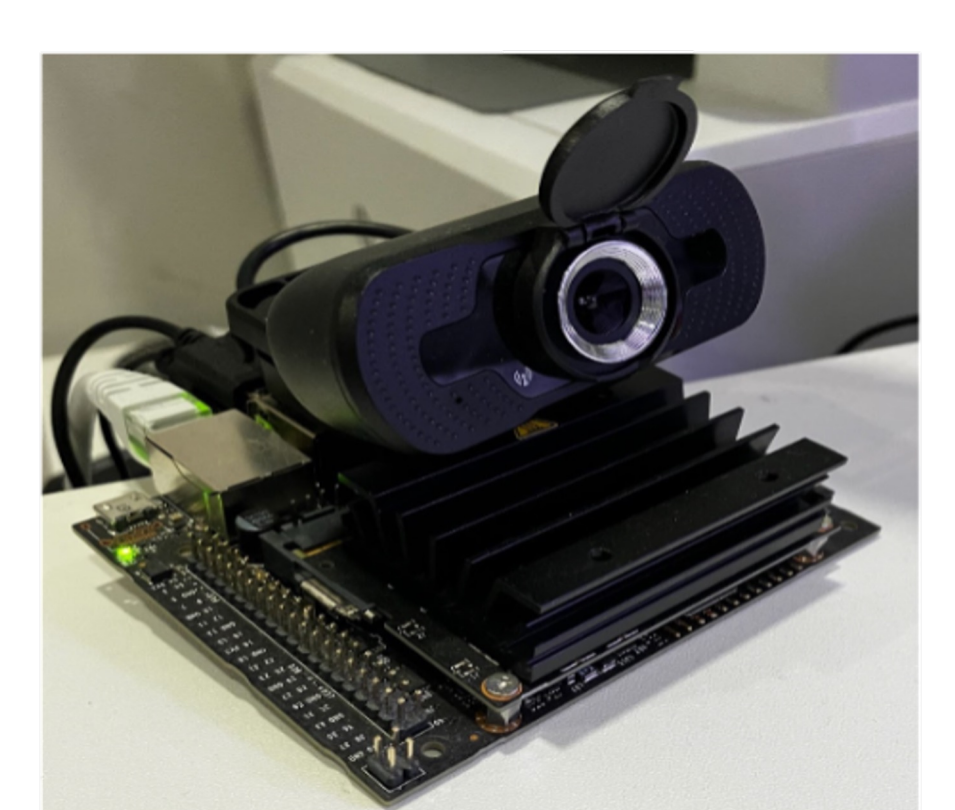
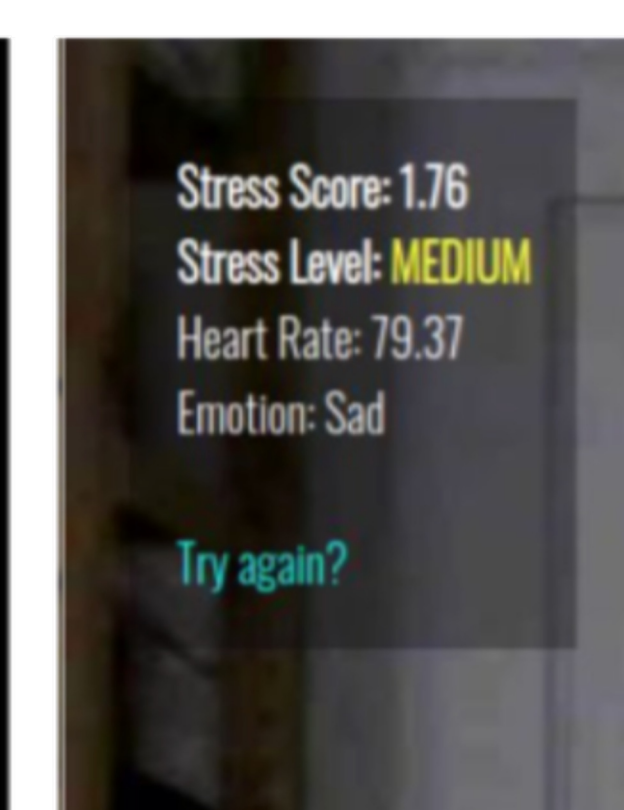
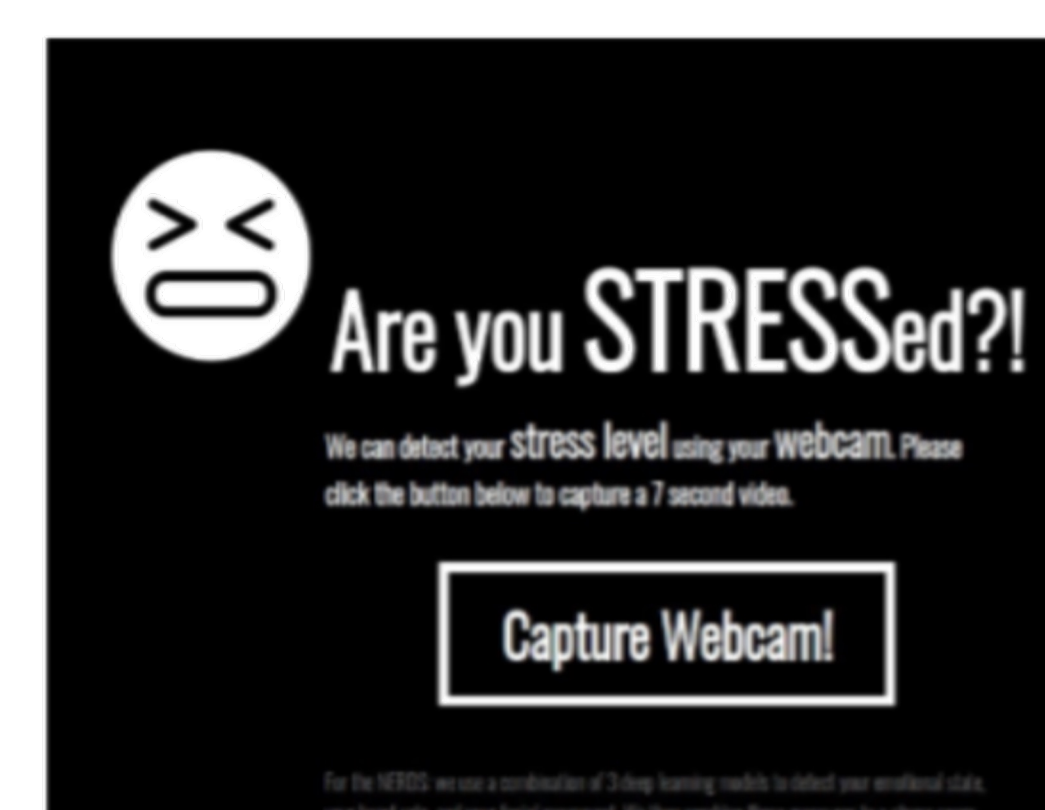


Model and Ablation Studies



The model identifies stress levels with 84% accuracy, reaching up to 90% accuracy when combining moderate/high-stress.

Discussion + Future Work



- Our package is available in a **ready-to-use web application**.
- Testing an **embedded, low-cost device** on an NVIDIA Jetson Nano connected to a mini camera.
- Integration of this software with **semi-autonomous vehicles** could play a role in driver settings.