

TECHNOLOGY

Heart Rate Measurement for Fitness Exercises using Facial Video

OVERVIEW

Recent studies show that subtle changes in a human's face color due to their heartbeat can be captured by digital cameras. Most existing work focuses on still/rest cases or those with relatively small motions.

Researchers at the University of Maryland have created a heart-rate monitoring method using facial video. The method consists of a highly precise motion compensation scheme with optical flow and the use of motion information to adaptively remove ambiguous frequency components to improve the heart rate estimates. This system extracts from a face video a 1-D sinusoid-like face color signal that has the same frequency as the heartbeat.

APPLICATIONS

- · Sports medicine
- · Other medical applications where touch-based sensors may not be suitable (e.g. patients with autism)

ADVANTAGES

· User-friendly approach (no need for electrodes, finger clips, etc.)

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Additional Information

INSTITUTION

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PATENT STATUS

Pending

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

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