

# A Multimodal BiMamba Network with Test-Time Adaptation for Emotion Recognition Based on Physiological Signals

Ziyu Jia<sup>1</sup>, Tingyu Du<sup>2</sup>, Zhengyu Tian<sup>3</sup>, Hongkai Li<sup>3</sup>, Yong Zhang<sup>4</sup>, Chenyu Liu<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences, <sup>2</sup>Institute of Computing Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, <sup>3</sup>Beijing Jiaotong University, <sup>4</sup>Huzhou University, <sup>5</sup>Nanyang Technological University

## Introduction

**Emotion Recognition based on Physiological Signals:**

◆ **Physiological signals** reflect the true emotional state of the human body objectively. Sleep staging is important for assessing sleep quality and diagnosing sleep disorders.

**Related Work:**

**a) Traditional machine learning methods:**

- Support Vector Machine.
- Rely heavily on expert knowledge, are limited by feature design and selection.

**b) Deep learning methods:**

- **Unimodal:** SST-EmotionNet, TSception.
- **Multimodal:** the residual LSTM network, the Neurophysiological Transformer, GJFusion, etc.
- Existing emotion recognition methods **rely on traditional backbones**, which struggle to model long-range dependencies and inter-modal correlations, and rarely address missing modality issues.

## Challenge

**C1: How to effectively model both the intra-modal long-range dependencies and inter-modal correlations of physiological signals.**

**C1.1: The intra-modal long-range dependencies:**

- Physiological signals exhibit long-range dependencies reflecting the gradual accumulation of emotional changes.
- CNN-based networks struggle to capture essential long-range temporal information. Transformer-based networks lacks an explicit temporal-filtering capability.

**C1.2: The inter-modal correlations:**

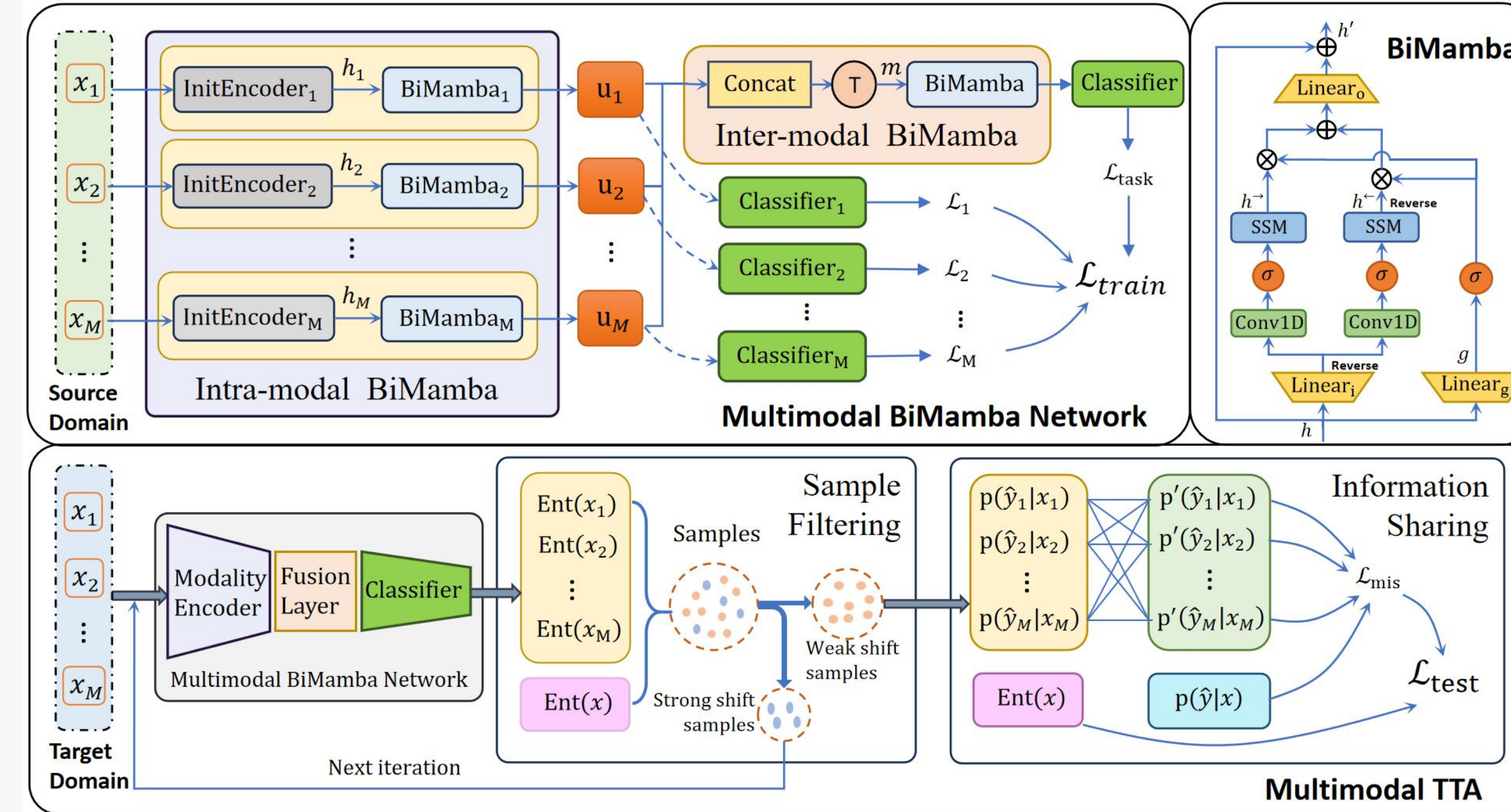
- The inter-modal correlations are evident in the way different modalities respond.
- Transformer-based networks cannot be fully captured through pairwise channel-wise interactions, making it difficult to model high-order correlations.

**C2: How to mitigate the impact of missing multimodal emotion-related physiological data on model.**

- When acquiring emotion-related physiological signals, uncontrollable factors may result in incomplete multimodal signal acquisition to varying degrees.
- The unavoidable presence of missing data amplify the distribution shifts in physiological data.

## Methods

**BiM-TTA: A Multimodal BiMamba Network with Test-Time Adaptation**



**BiMamba:**

- **Gating mechanism:** That adaptively weights features to highlight emotion-relevant information while suppressing.
- **State-space modeling:** That models temporal dependencies from both forward and backward perspectives, thereby capturing richer contextual dynamics.
- **Linear projection and residual connection:** Those integrate bidirectional features and stabilize training.

**C1: How to effectively model both the intra-modal long-range dependencies and inter-modal correlations of physiological signals.**

**S1: We design a multimodal BiMamba network, where the intra-modal BiMamba module models long-range dependencies within modalities, and the inter-modal BiMamba module captures inter-modal correlations.**

**S1.1: The intra-modal BiMamba module.**

- **InitEncoder<sub>i</sub>** : Extract shallow features from each modality input from a specific modality.
- **BiMamba:** Model the temporal dimension further.

**S1.2: The inter-modal correlations:**

- **Concatenate** features of each modality along channel dimension, and **swap** time and channel dimensions.
- **BiMamba:** perform bidirectional state modeling of the features from different modalities along the channel dimension.

## Results

◆ BiM-TTA is evaluated on two publicly available multimodal datasets: DEAP and MAHNOB-HCI.

|               | DEAP         |              | MAHNOB-HCI   |              |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|               | Valence      | Arousal      | Valence      | Arousal      |
| SVM           | 0.552        | 0.584        | 0.564        | 0.573        |
| EEGNet        | 0.566        | 0.593        | 0.609        | 0.612        |
| ACRNN         | 0.609        | 0.638        | 0.610        | 0.613        |
| HetEmotionNet | 0.625        | 0.633        | 0.607        | 0.601        |
| TSception     | 0.613        | 0.635        | 0.633        | 0.599        |
| LGGNet        | 0.618        | 0.636        | 0.632        | 0.609        |
| VSGT          | 0.631        | 0.628        | 0.613        | 0.599        |
| EEG-Deformer  | 0.609        | 0.630        | 0.587        | 0.595        |
| MambaFormer   | 0.621        | 0.587        | 0.588        | 0.619        |
| SST           | 0.613        | 0.623        | 0.606        | 0.616        |
| BiM-TTA(ours) | <b>0.673</b> | <b>0.641</b> | <b>0.650</b> | <b>0.635</b> |

|               | Valence(%)   |              |              |              |              | Arousal(%)   |              |              |              |              |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|               | 0.2          | 0.4          | 0.6          | 0.8          | Avg          | 0.2          | 0.4          | 0.6          | 0.8          | Avg          |
| Tent          | -0.162       | 0.000        | -0.314       | -0.162       | -0.162       | 0.471        | -0.469       | 0.167        | 0.232        | 0.101        |
| EATA          | -0.315       | 0.157        | -0.154       | 0.076        | -0.061       | 0.701        | -0.705       | 0.305        | 0.234        | 0.134        |
| READ          | <b>1.562</b> | 0.625        | 0.234        | 0.703        | 0.781        | 0.312        | -0.070       | 0.391        | 0.859        | 0.372        |
| 2LTTA         | 0.937        | 0.937        | 0.546        | 1.010        | 0.858        | 0.390        | 0.156        | 0.937        | 0.234        | 0.429        |
| BiM-TTA(ours) | <b>1.406</b> | <b>1.250</b> | <b>0.859</b> | <b>1.172</b> | <b>1.172</b> | <b>1.016</b> | <b>1.719</b> | <b>1.094</b> | <b>1.406</b> | <b>1.309</b> |

◆ Under the complete-data setting, as shown in Table, we compare BiM-TTA with four families of methods: traditional machine learning, CNN-based and unidirectional RNN-based models, GNN-based models, and Transformer or Transformer plus SSM models. BiM-TTA achieves state-of-the-art performance on both datasets.

◆ Under the missing-data setting, the two Tables report improvements over “No Adapt,” which evaluates a source-trained model directly on a missing-data target without adaptation. Across both datasets and mask ratios, BiM-TTA consistently achieves larger gains than other TTA methods and sets the state of the art.

**C2: How to mitigate the impact of missing multimodal emotion-related physiological data on model.**

**S2: We propose the multimodal TTA method consisting of two key steps: 1) two-level entropy-based sample filtering and 2) mutual information sharing across modalities.**

**Step1: Two-level entropy-based sample filtering:**

- Selectively retains samples with low multimodal entropy and high unimodal entropy.
- Next, we employ an iterative entropy-based sample selection strategy to progressively expand the range of target-domain samples.
- Multimodal entropy reflects the model's certainty about its prediction. Unimodal entropy measures the extent to which a sample relies on multimodal information.

**Step2: Mutual information sharing across modalities:**

- Mutual information sharing across modalities leverages more informative modalities to guide those with significant missing information, alleviating amplified inter-modal distribution shifts.
- To improve the consistency of predictions across different modalities, we can minimize the KL divergence between the probability and its complementary probability.

## Conclusion

**Contribution:**

- This paper proposes a **multimodal BiMamba network with TTA** for emotion recognition.
- The multimodal BiMamba network effectively captures **intra-modal dependencies** and **inter-modal correlations** of multimodal physiological signals.
- The TTA **alleviates the negative impact** of amplified distribution shifts caused by missing multimodal data.
- Experiment results demonstrate that our model achieves **state-of-the-art** performance.

**Prospect:**

- We will further extend BiM-TTA to broader physiological analysis tasks, including sleep stage classification and motor imagery.